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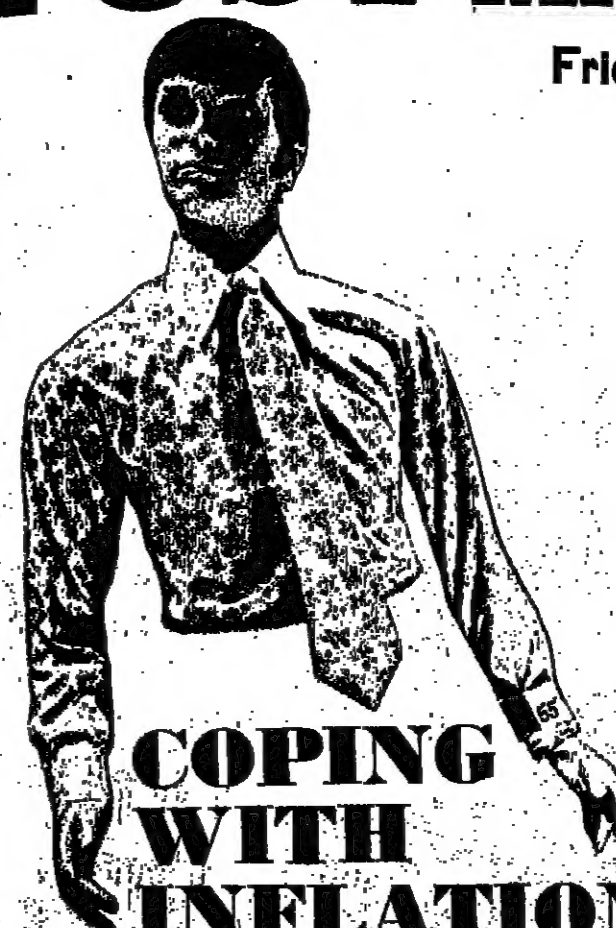
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THE JERUSALEM POST MAGAZINE

Friday, February 9, 1973



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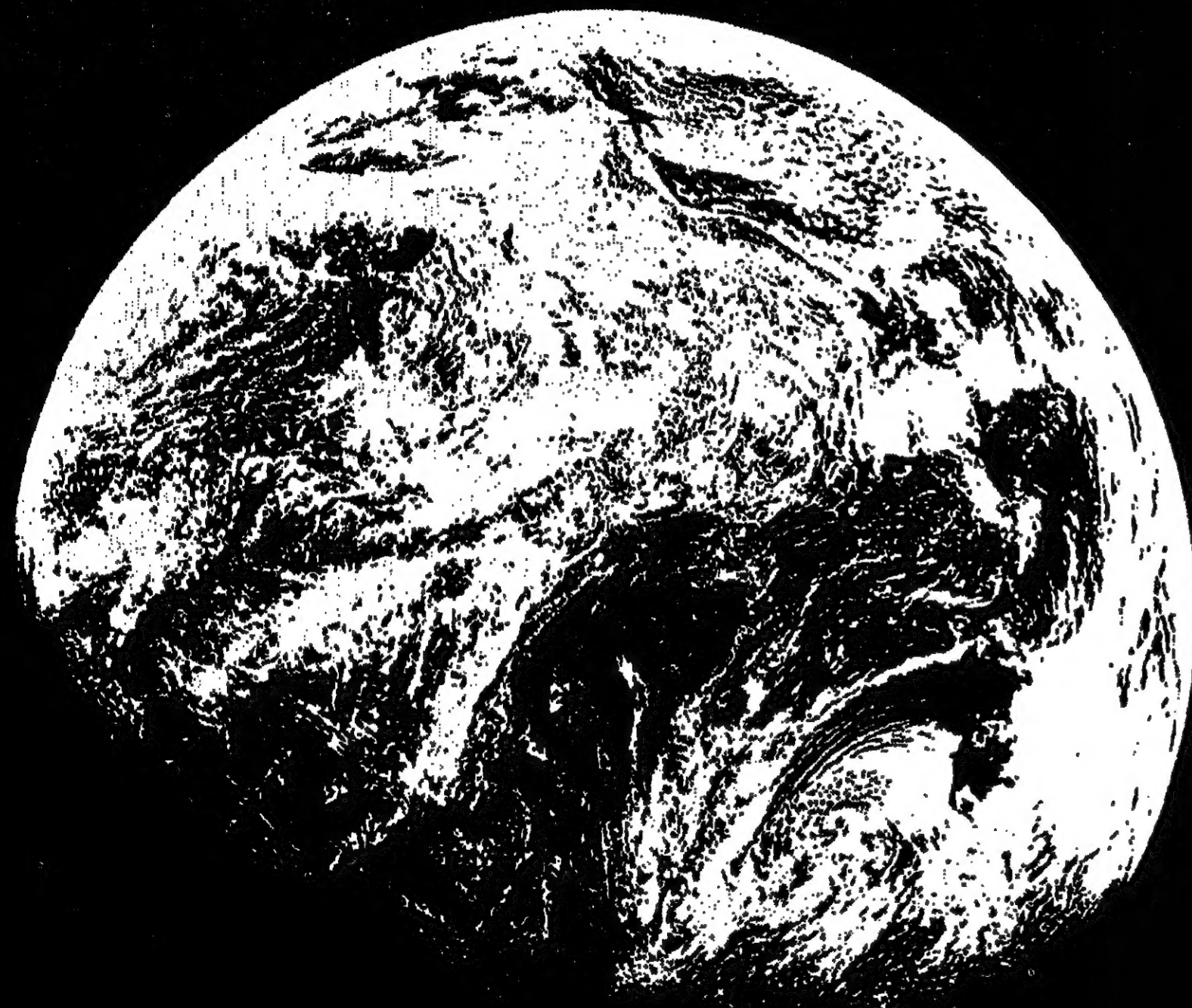


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ON THE COVER: Post photo editor David Rubinger and graphic artist Murray Bloom collaborated to produce a montage illustrating the problem of inflation, which has brought about the creation of a special Government-labour-industry committee.



Gafny: 'package deal the only way'



Efrat: three groups of 'villains'



Shavit: 'controlled inflation'



Sanbar: lock up surplus money

There is need for restraint — in prices and wages — and government action to absorb surplus money to prevent an inflationary spiral from gaining momentum. This is what Post reporters DAVID KRIVINE and MACABEE DEAN were told when they asked Bank of Israel Governor Moshe Sanbar, the Treasury's Arnon Gafny, Avraham Shavit of the Manufacturers' Association and Histadrut leader Aharon Efrat for their opinions on the problem.

WHAT'S wrong about inflation? Things have never been better. Nearly everybody is prosperous, nearly everybody is working, making money, spending money, buying goods, traveling, going on vacation — many of them abroad. Everybody eats better and dresses better than ever before in the history of the State. The universities are bursting at the seams. Why should we try to stop inflation? Why not encourage it?

We put the question to Avraham Shavit, Vice-President of the Manufacturers' Association, and head of the Shavit metal, electric and gas plant in Ramat Gan.

"For many reasons," he replied. "One of them is that the economy of any country moves in cycles, from an upswing leading to prosperity, to a decline leading to a depression. If we want to avoid the depression we have to stop the boom and get the economy on as even a keel as possible."

Israel, he added, is particularly vulnerable, since it is engaged in an all-out export drive. Rising prices make our exports non-competitive. If our factories can't sell their products they will have to make severe cutbacks, and an economic recession will set in. What is causing inflation in Israel, we asked.

Unavoidable factors "Several factors, one of which is unavoidable. This is the fact that there is inflation in other countries. When we buy raw materials abroad we have to pay higher prices. This causes the prices of the goods we make to rise.

"A second cause is the workers' demand for higher wages. We are paying them, this year, 30, 40, 50 per cent more. Do you think we manufacturers can absorb these pay increases? Perhaps we could absorb five per cent, ten per cent, but not 50 per cent.

"We have just put up the price of our stoves and other appliances to cover the higher wages we pay. The worker, when he goes to buy a stove, finds that he hasn't enough money for it, so he demands higher wages, and so the spiral goes on. And anyone who has money rushes to spend it, for in a short time it will be worthless. This also forces up prices.

"Moreover, there are millions of marks flowing in from Germany as personal restitution, and millions of dollars, and other currencies, seeking investments, some of which are not productive, others purely speculative."

In these circumstances, says Mr. Shavit, some inflation is unavoidable.

"But we must decide between galloping inflation and disaster, or controlled inflation and continued prosperity — if at a lower standard of living than that reigning today."

How does he propose to control inflation? First of all, he says, stop talking about it.

"There is a strong psychological factor at work here — as there is a lot of economics. Talking about inflation creates inflation, for people get to believe that their money is worthless, so they run out to buy something,

selling strong, durable shirts, this year in a store selling fashions. If he had gone to the same store as last year, he would have paid more, perhaps as much as IL18, but certainly not IL40. We have to cut out the luxuries."

Another point made by Mr. Shavit:

"Every enterprise — and I mean every one — should get rid of the non-productive people on its payroll. I'm talking about hidden unemployment. This is the time, when jobs are plentiful, for people to get to believe that their money is worthless, so they run out to buy something,

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What can be done to remedy the imbalance? Mr. Gafny's suggestion is that everybody chip in. The workers could agree, for example, to lend part of their wage increase to the Government, or could stomach a tax increase on consumption, or accept a mixture of both. The employers could undertake not to raise prices, except to compensate for any increase in the cost of imported materials.

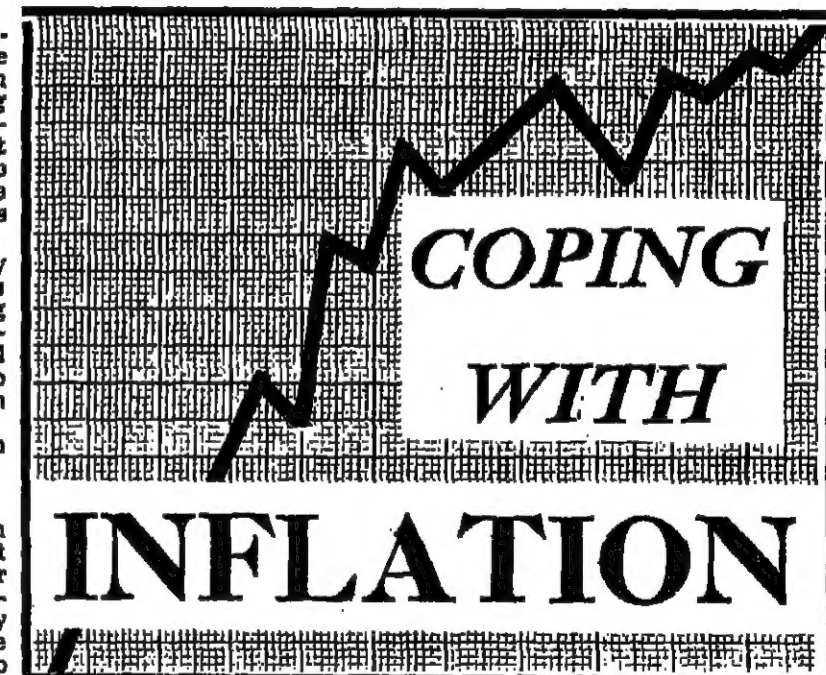
But, we asked, what about the higher wages they have to pay?

"They must absorb that." And here the Government could come in, to sweeten the pill. "Industrialists keep pressing for a bigger export incentive. And they want an end to the employers' loan." We wondered whether concessions of that kind would not be inflationary. True, but you cannot abolish inflation, in Mr. Gafny's view: You can only diminish it, by a certain amount of give-and-take. Everybody must sacrifice something, even the Government.

It seemed like closing the stable door after the horse has bolted. Prices went up by over 12 per cent last year. Should not something have been done before?

WE asked Moshe Sanbar, Governor of the Bank of Israel, who can fairly be described as our most fertile source of ingenious new ideas in the field of economic policy. He divides the subject into two. The first need is to pump money out of circulation — and lock it up in the vaults of the central bank, where no one (not even the Government) can lay his hand on it. This policy was initiated some time ago.

Mr. Sanbar is, in fact, pressing hard on the commercial banks. Most recently they have had to invest in the Government Short-Term Loan; now they find they have not enough money left to lend to their customers, so fall



thus causing inflation to snowball."

Secondly, he proposes putting "heavy taxes" on goods of all types — even food — so that many luxury commodities would be out of the reach of the consumers, thus lessening the demand for them. On the other hand, he would reduce income tax, which would encourage people to produce more, since they would be able to keep more of their earnings for their own needs.

Information drive The reason for imposing heavy taxes should be driven home in a continuous propaganda campaign, so that people would realize that it is to their own benefit to tighten their belt and lower their standards of living.

"Look, a worker came to me recently pointing out that last year he had to pay IL12: this year he had to pay IL40. But he forgot to mention that last year he bought a shirt for IL12, and this year he bought a suit for IL40."

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Let's stop playing around with the money, and will help many families to tide over possible hard times."

And finally, Mr. Shavit favours introducing a new type of "currency" — what an hour's work will buy.

IT is easy to recommend the application of "heavy taxes" on goods, which will only push up prices further — in the interest, admittedly, of eventual stabilisation. We turned to a senior official in charge of practical policies, Arnon Gafny, chief of the Treasury's Budget Division. What does he recommend?

"Another package deal — it's the only way," he says. "All sides are affected by the present imbalance that threatens the economy — the workers by price inflation, the employers by wage inflation, the Government by a worsening of the trade balance. Each side threatens to make things more unpleasant for the others — the workers by demanding a bigger cost-of-living allowance in July, and the employers by pushing prices up another notch, while the Government has not yet 'found' the IL270m. needed to keep the cost of subsidized commodities from going up."

What can be done to remedy the imbalance? Mr. Gafny's suggestion is that everybody chip in. The workers could agree, for example, to lend part of their wage increase to the Government, or could stomach a tax increase on consumption, or accept a mixture of both. The employers could undertake not to raise prices, except to compensate for any increase in the cost of imported materials.

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(Continued on page four)

(Continued from page three)
short on their liquidity ratio. But Mr. Sanbar recently stepped up the fines for these shortfalls, so the banks are driven to denying credit to those customers, in order to comply with the liquidity requirements and avoid incurring the heavy fines. "Which is the result we wanted in the first place — to reduce credit," Mr. Sanbar smiles.

He competes with business companies and other borrowers in offering high interest-rates to the public, in order to get their money too into his hands, and then freeze it.

His second answer to the challenge of inflation is: cut the gap between supply and demand. It can be done by reducing demand but also by pumping up supply. How to achieve that, when output is already growing as fast as resources allow? Since tariffs, he urges — faster than is being done under the import liberalization programme. More goods will come in, because they are cheaper; and local firms who cannot compete will stop making high-cost products.

Financing housing

Turning to building, he suggests that those who are entitled to mortgage loans, such as young couples, be allowed to use them where they like instead of being forced into debt by buying a flat larger than they want from a Government or Histadrut housing company.

He advocates abolishing income tax on the money people get for renting accommodation, not only to new immigrants.

"An elderly couple may occupy a large flat. If they rent two rooms out to another family — that saves the state IL60,000 this year on building a new apartment. Multiply that saving by a few hundred cases, and you are economizing enough cement and building labour to start holding the rise in housing prices."

MR. Sanbar did not speak about wages. Has the expansion of wage demands during the last year contributed to price inflation? Aharon Efrat, Mapam labour leader and member of the Histadrut Central Committee, does not think so. In his opinion, three main groups are the "villains" responsible: importers, merchants, and financial speculators.

"Last August, the Minister of Commerce and Industry announced that price controls on a multitude of items would end on January 1. But effective supervision stopped almost as soon as he made his announcement, and these three groups moved in, raised prices, and raked in huge profits."

But did he not think that the workers' wage demands were also a direct cause of inflation?

"The overwhelming majority of the workers won't see one price of these higher wages until they get their salaries at the end of March (although they get cost-of-living adjustments earlier). How could money they haven't yet seen cause prices to rise in the last few months of 1972? And the Government hasn't imposed any new taxes."

Mr. Efrat says that the people hardest hit by inflation are the quarter of a million living on fixed pensions or social security. "In December 1972, a single person received a social security cheque of IL111. It had the purchasing power of IL88 according to 1970 prices."

Next hardest hit are those living on wages and salaries, specifically the low (starting at IL380 a month) and middle (up to IL1,000) wage-earners. "The cost of living has gone up by 22 per cent in the past two years, and they are only now getting compensation for it."

Mr. Efrat admits that some inflation is inevitable, and even desirable, since "inflation seems to be the hallmark of a developing society in a developing country."

For example, funds spent on such

COPING WITH INFLATION

major items as security, immigration and social welfare are all inflationary, but they are necessary. And they only cause controllable inflation, not run-away inflation.

The primary cause for galloping inflation, he emphasized again, was "unbridled profit-making by three groups." Another factor was the devaluation of the pound in 1971.

"Some \$200m. poured in to be exchanged for Israeli pounds and some went to buy apartments, some to sit in financial institutions where they earned 20 per cent interest — which, after 25 per cent income tax, still meant 15 per cent net."

"Thirdly, from 1971 onwards, the Government has been 'borrowing' money from the Bank of Israel. This 'borrowing' only means printing money. Thus millions upon millions of newly printed bank notes were put into circulation." (But the Government drew hardly any money from the Bank of Israel in 1972, and will not draw any at all in 1973, the Budget says.)

A fourth factor is that the 1971 devaluation caused much of the IL1,250m. in foreign currency held here to be converted into Israeli pounds; and the Government, after inflation, did not impose taxes on stocks held in warehouses, thus letting the merchants make unearned profits.

"Finally, as a result of all this, and other factors, prices rose. And this led to the demands of the workers for compensation to cover higher costs," Mr. Efrat says, adding that "payment of the cost-of-living allowance also contributed to inflation."

How could he stop inflation?

First, he declares, nothing can be done until the three leaders of the country, the Government, the Histadrut, and the manufacturers, get together and work out a joint policy. Meanwhile he approves of steps taken by the Government to mop up funds from the banks and the financial sector.

Mr. Efrat further proposes that "taxes should be increased on goods, but not on incomes." What would he tax? Strangely enough, (he says this with a smile), not repeat not, TV sets, and not refrigerators, unless they were large enough to be considered in the luxury class. But he would tax heavily expensive and imported wines, liquors, cigarettes, furniture, rugs, etc. Some IL150m. could be collected through these taxes.

He would also put a tax of IL25,000 on any new flat costing more than IL120,000 and graduate it to IL50,000 for flats costing IL250,000.

Income tax

Mr. Efrat urges the more efficient collection of income tax, so that everyone pays his proper share. He recommends increasing company tax from 53 to 65 or even 70 per cent — and this should also be levied on family businesses and small partnerships. He also wants an increase in the capital gains tax, which should likewise be extended to profits made on the stock exchange.

Another step would be to "be more selective in allowing foreign currency into the country. Speculative money (invested in real estate) should be kept out. Only productive money — which would help build the country's economy — should be let in."

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry should keep a careful eye on prices, and determine which criteria to follow in allowing price rises.

— Like Mr. Shavit — he thinks that there should be "a vigorous shake-down" in the services where hidden unemployment is rampant. Why should a person draw a fat salary with-

out producing anything: he should be dismissed to find productive employment, and thus ease the shortage of labour."

"If all this is done," says Mr. Efrat, "and if the index doesn't rise by four per cent by July 1, we won't demand an increase in the cost-of-living allowance. The workers are willing to bear their just burden, but not to suffer at the expense of others who make profits."

MR. Efrat's analysis of what caused inflation caused raised eyebrows in Government circles. Pensioners and low-wage earners do not get as little as he says, if the low-income allowances are included.

Dr. Moshe Mandelbaum, Deputy Director-General in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and Controller of Prices, declared bluntly when we consulted him, that the Government's announce-

ment about price controls last August had no effect whatever on the cost-of-living index ("Look at the monthly index for yourself and see"), so it could not have swollen profits.

Lifting company taxes to 65 or 70 per cent — taking into account that what is left, if distributed as dividends, is taxed as well — would put an end to investment altogether, and lead straight to unemployment, says the Governor of the Bank of Israel. And as to Mr. Efrat's recommendation that the capital gains tax be raised from 25 to 40 per cent, well, precisely that was put into law last August.

Wages became an inflationary factor during the second half of last year, when practically all collective agreements were concluded. One of us recalls hearing Mr. Sanbar specifically exonerated salaried workers from responsibility for price increases — until

mid-1972. After that the situation changed, and wage inflation took over.

All sides are in fact agreed that, and all are of one mind that some measure of wage restraint has become imperative. None denies that the primary cause of inflation is the inflow of capital from abroad. But the capital is as necessary to the Israeli economy as air to breathe. For a long time to come, Israel will be obliged to offset the inflationary effect of a large foreign currency import (or alternatively, a diminishing trade deficit) by pumping surplus Israeli pounds out of the eager hands of all three sectors — capital, labour, and Government departments, who have a spending spree of their own.

We were late in starting; but having started, we must go through with it, before inflationary pressures turn into an inflationary spiral. Restraint of consumption, through wage restraint, of money by the authorities — all that looks like being the order of the day for many years to come.

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Lea Ben Dor's
Parliamentary
Report



WHO WANTS LOWER TAXES?

THE warm, ticking heart of any democracy is control of government spending by the people through their elected representatives. That makes the budget debate the most important event in the Knesset's year. Despite the government's comfortable majority at all times on this issue, there is no doubt that the mere fact that the budget must be presented and debated forces Finance Minister Sapir to say not only whether it will add up right, but whether it will look right to his critics.

The debate was so long this time — 33 speakers — that the final effect was rather confusing. Mr. Sapir became involved in what was almost a comical denial of benefits he is bestowing on the public, such as reductions in taxes on medium incomes and raising of the free allowances to exempt entirely a large number of small earners. It is true, as he says, that he is doing so he is following the recommendations of the Asher Committee on tax reform, and in so doing he is adjusting tax rates to the distortions caused by inflation, which puts even modest earners in the high-tax brackets.

And in any case, who really minds being tax rates reduced? (The Mapam speakers commonly protest against tax cuts, arguing that the people paying large sums in income tax will help more than those paying little or nothing. Critics of kibbutz politicians swear that the complicated accounting system of kibbutz income and expenditure lets them off relatively lightly.)

Of course there is room for advice expenses in any large business corporation that the wage earner cannot practice.

Mr. Sapir's critics told him this was nothing but an election year ploy, which he denied furiously. Though the elections were not held this autumn, Mr. Sapir was criticized by this rather routine tactic that it looked at one point as though he might cancel the tax reductions straight away, just to prove that he has not been elected. With that unimpeachable Alignment election committee that has organized itself around Mr. Sapir he does

not even need the tax reduction to win. Just to prove his heart is in the right place and made of steel he threatened there would be other new taxes if wage levels continued to rise.

One of Mr. Sapir's most telling arguments with the Gahal speakers was that for all the breath they expended they had no economic programme of their own to offer instead of his. They would be wise to take the hint. For years their leading speaker on economics, Mr. Yohanan Bader, used the budget debate to inveigh against the monopoly operations of the Histadrut. Now this issue has failed him since Gahal decided to establish its own party in the trade unions, instead of leaving its supporters to vote for one of the labour factions. Mr. Sapir did not actually ask the opposition whether they would have preferred to postpone the lowering of tax rates until after the elections, if they had been in office themselves, as he well might have done.

It was another of the occasions when the immense advantages at the elections of the party in office stood out clearly. This is something Gahal has always resented with a humourless bitterness, as though it was just another of the tribulations to be endured by faithful Jews building the homeland. Political life does not start from scratch every four years, and we should not get very far, all of us together, if it did.

MR. Sapir had a unanimously poor press on his curious arithmetic on the cost of administering the occupied areas. By calculations of the kind that used to be known as *mit di hand* ("with your hand high"), as opposed to "with your hand low," he figured that the West Bank cost us a cool billion pounds in five years. In this he included not only the West Bank's share of the subsidies on bread, oil and sugar that Israel enjoys, and totalling IL100m. for the current year, but the cost of army units stationed there instead of along the inside of the old Green Line border; and even the social service deductions from the earnings of workers from the areas which are being held at the moment because the services (such as the sick fund) to which they should go do not exist where they live. Income from Sinal oil was not being credited against these expenditures "for technical reasons," he admitted, but it is known to be very considerable.

When Egypt decides to make peace, the oil fields of Abu Rodeis will be in the area of Sinal returned to Egyptian rule because, whatever their value, they are not necessary to our security. Is Mr. Sapir suggesting that we shall reimburse Egypt for the oil royalties it lost in the intervening years? When they would not make peace but threatened war? It is an interesting thought. The whole reckoning is not convincing. Our balance of trade with the West Bank of Jordan is favourable, and Arab labour from that area has not only brought prosperity there, but saved us from a far more severe labour shortage still which might have driven building costs up to disastrous levels. Life is indivisible, like peace. If Nasser had not provoked war in 1967, it would not have ended with the occupation of the West Bank and

other areas, and there might be no immigration and building boom. For all we know, the 1968 recession or depression might have continued or become worse. It can legitimately be questioned whether it is possible today to produce a separate accounting for the West Bank and other occupied areas.

Mr. Sapir also produced figures to show that it cost something near IL1m. for each family settled in new farming villages near the Jordan and that it was not true that we were not providing the funds needed for new settlement there, as Defence Minister Dayan has said lately. The village is established and stays put, and replaces an army unit. If it were not there, what would Mr. Sapir have charged us in his balance sheet for military protection in the area?

It was merely a coincidence that Justice Minister Shapiro presented his latest contribution to a form of constitution this week, consisting of the Economic of the government to make

Law. This did not boil down to much more than that the government and local authorities may legal to reduce such imposts as obligatory payments of any kind except by law, but that it is legal to reduce such imposts at any time. Mr. Shapiro said that the local authorities had not always observed the regulations properly, but that the government itself had collected its taxes in the proper fashion. There is an essential banality about a law defining how laws shall be formulated to collect taxes, for the enabling law is based on no deeper understanding of legal procedures than the tax law itself, and is prepared by the same team of law-makers in the Justice Ministry.

Useful constitutions consist of principles against which any new laws can be tested, such as the equal rights of citizens, or, in our case, for instance, the rights of immigrants, which might conceivably need defending at some time in the future. The right of the government to make national tax policies.

laws hardly needs embodying in a basic law of its own, but the Justice Minister belongs in the category which believes that democracy will be safer in Israel as a more elaborate constitutional law is written. Constitutions are only as good as the governments who observe them, and do not survive others that pass emergency regulations to circumvent their safeguards.

Even the American constitution, which is held up as a model of durability, has been interpreted differently by each successive generation of Supreme Court justices. No final constitution can be written for a country whose ultimate borders are a matter for debate even by its own citizens, and which still expects large-scale immigration and has no peace agreements with its neighbours. The tax law lays down no fundamental principle. It will presumably be the trouble to suspend it, but it will not make much difference to national tax policies.

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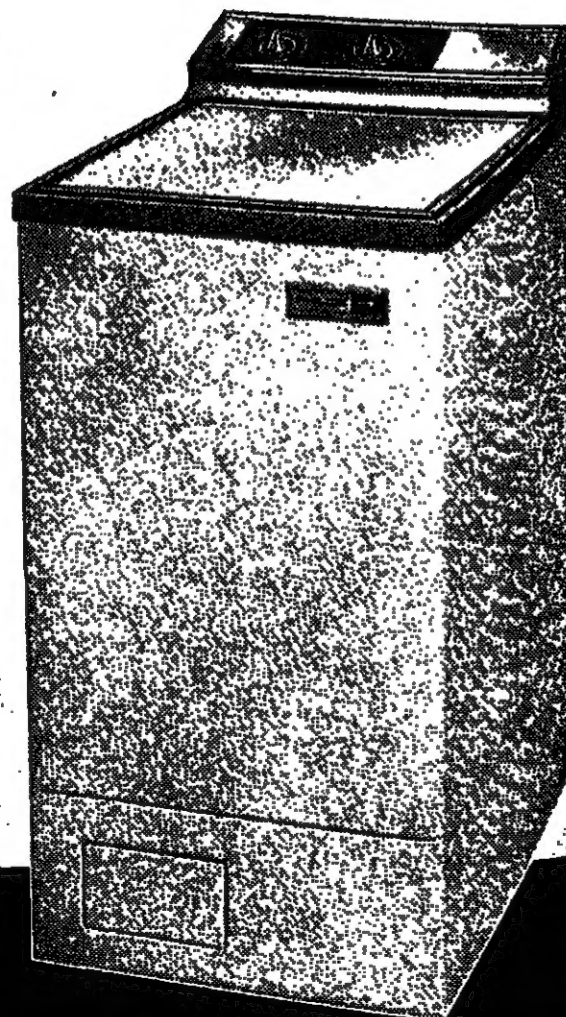
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THE COMPACT MODELS:

BIOCOMPACT
WIDTH - 41 cm.
HEIGHT - 85 cm.
DEPTH - 63 cm.

BIOLAMATIC
WIDTH - 45 cm.
HEIGHT - 85 cm.
DEPTH - 63 cm.

RIGHT: A Sa'ar class missile boat, built according to Israeli specifications in the French shipyards at Cherbourg and slipped out despite the French embargo three years ago.
(David Rubinger)

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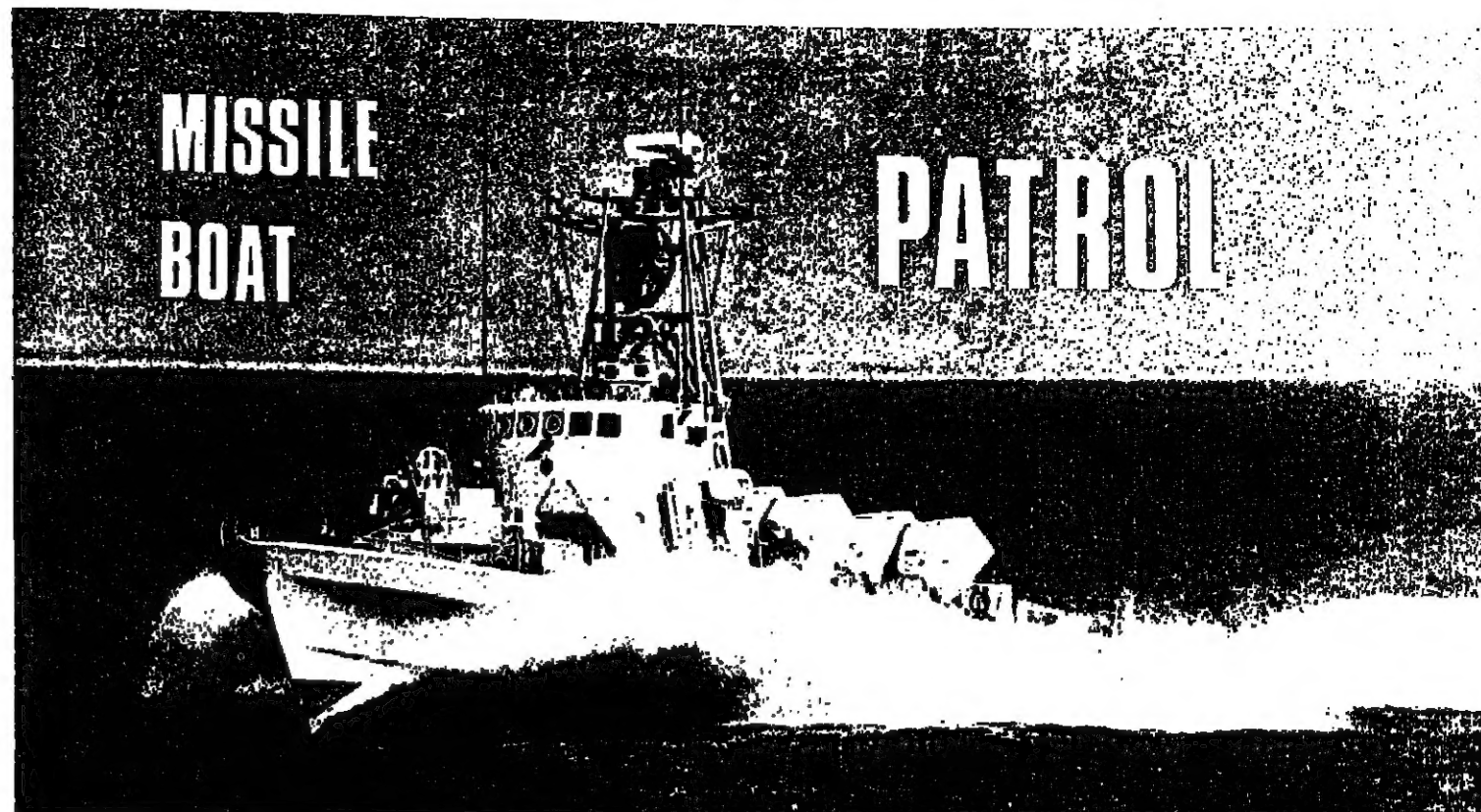
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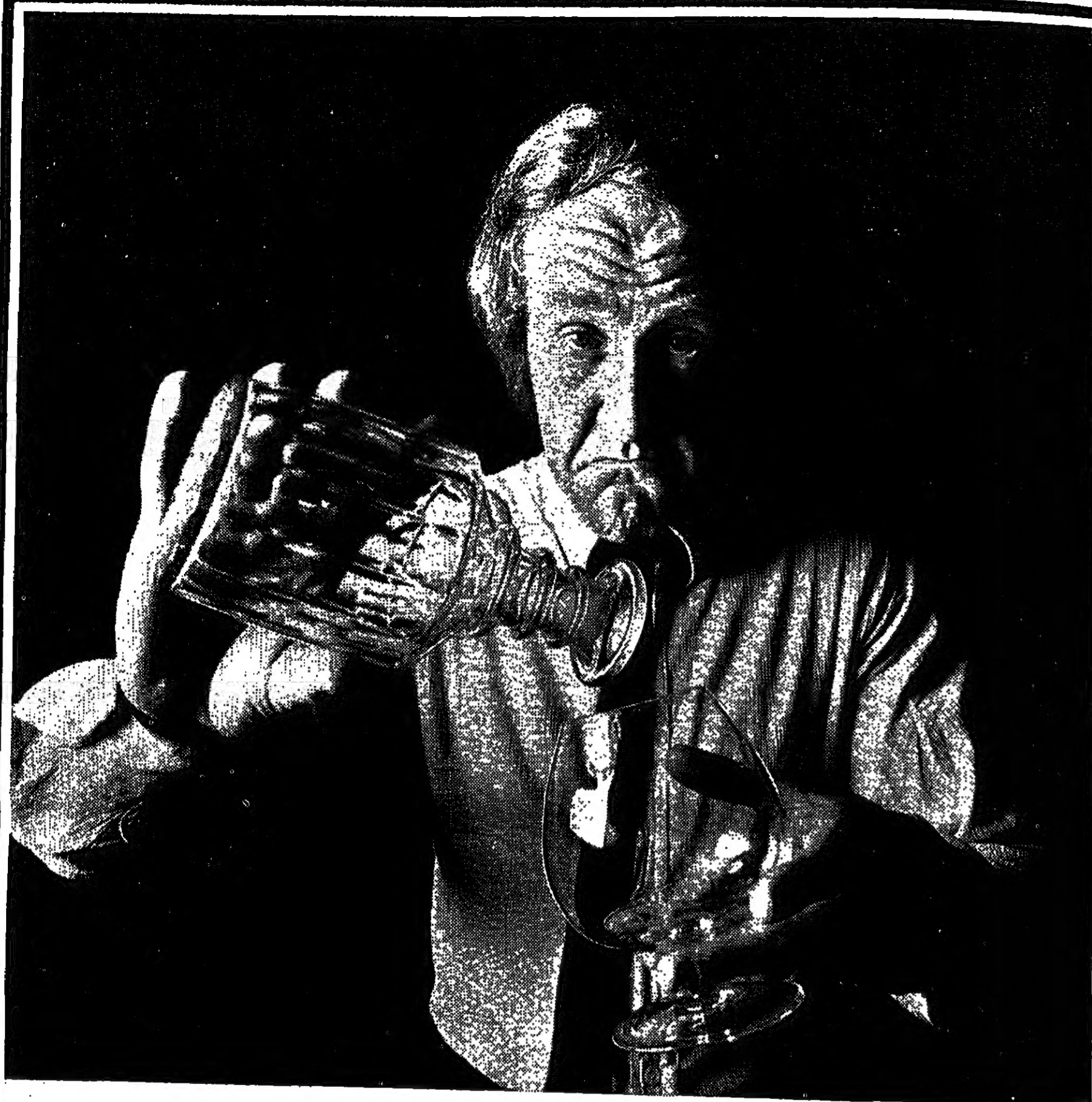
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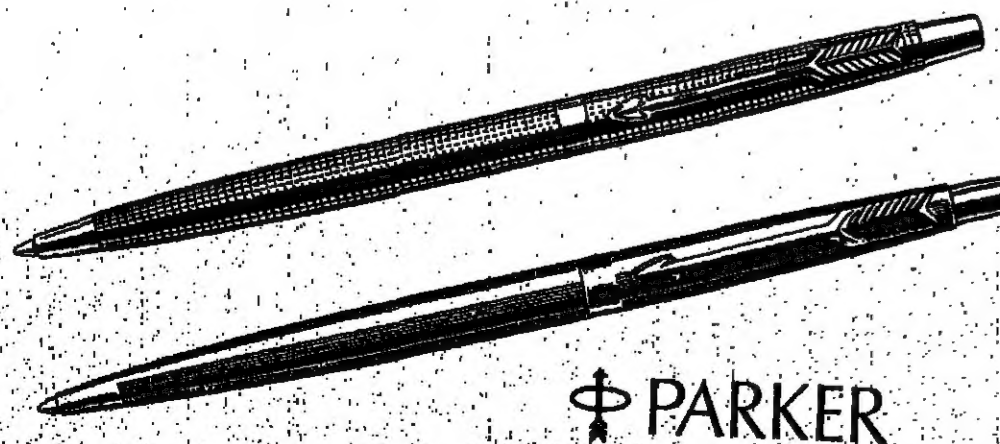
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The second Annual Assembly of the Reconstituted Jewish Agency in Jerusalem this week seems to have proved that the marriage between the fund-raisers and the traditional Zionists has been successful. The Post's PHILIP GILLON found after interviewing some of the leaders.

THE first thing about the atmosphere surrounding this week's sessions of the Assembly of the Reconstituted Jewish Agency is that anybody who has attended sessions of the Zionist Congress or the Actions Committee in the corridors, no whispered conspiracies in back rooms of the King David Hotel, no caucus meetings summoned whenever delegates might otherwise snatch a little sleep, no critical votes pushed through in the small hours of the morning.

I miss the usual grievances of delegates from abroad: the end-of-the-world language delivered at them in uncomprehended Hebrew by the Israelis; the demand by extremists that Zionists abroad should immigrate or be expelled into outer darkness; the demonstrations by Black Panthers and the Jewish Defence League; the latest slogan of Zion's enfant terrible, Dr. Nahum Goldmann.

Down to business

It's very, very interesting. It's a business, getting down to business.

No doubt the heady excitement of the week will be served up to the same people next week. The meeting of the Actions Committee, the Zionist General Council, the Agency Executive, the Chairman of the Agency Arye L. Pincus, through the reform, not only at bringing together the sheep and the goats into one fold but also at separating the business and the talk.

His fellow-architect of the Reconstituted Agency, Max Fisher, Chairman of its Board of Governors, is very pleased indeed with the phrase he used in his keynote address — "the Common Market of Jewish resources."

With a shy smile, he repeats it to anybody savouring a good word.

That sums up what we're doing," he says. "We want to offer Israel not only our financial resources but also our resources of brains and know-how. Jews have moved throughout the world that they have plenty of brains, that they can develop great enterprises. What more natural than that they should place their own brains and ideas at the disposal of Israel? Today every Jew in the world accepts that that is good for Israel is good for the Jewish people."

Asked to define a non-Zionist, he says: "Frankly, I can't. I don't know. Our aim must be to develop an exclusive club, but we must be broad-based or we are not Israel together."

I suggest to Mr. Fisher that the fund-raisers start telling us how the money should be spent and what is wrong with Israel's methods, they should provide a certain amount of money, like the old axiom says, two heads are better than one.

For this reason, he welcomes the entry of the fund-raisers into new areas, advising on how problems can be solved.

Jewish brains are as good as any on earth — why shouldn't Israel get the full benefit of them? As the old axiom says, two heads are better than one.



At right: A.L. Pincus, centre, and Max Fisher greet Chief Rabbi Goren. Some of the delegates to the assembly, top row from left: Louis Klein (Australia); Nessim Gaon (Switzerland); Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg (U.S.); Thomas Hecht (Canada); Charlotte Jacobson (Madagascar); Paul Zuckerman (U.S.). Second row: Julius Weinstein (South Africa); Michael Pelavin (U.S.). (Israel Sun photos)

The fund-raisers and the money

where when people come along with new ideas. Obviously, a great deal of tact is needed. You must also remember that someone coming from another country as an adviser also has set ideas, based on the experience of that country, which may not be suitable for Israel. I believe we can help. We have considerable expertise in many areas — housing, health, welfare, finances. We can call on Jewish brains from all round the globe. The great thing is to get together, to talk things over. After all, we have a common goal: the good of Israel.

PAUL Zuckerman, General Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, thinks that the creation of the Reconstituted Agency was something of a miracle.

"I've seen many miracles in my time," he says, "and this is the latest one, getting together in Jerusalem 300 Jews from all parts of the world with one objective — to learn about Israel's needs, and to try to help solve her problems, both with money and with ideas."

As far as the money is concerned, he is very proud of the fact that 1972 was a better year for U.J.A. even than 1967, and he is determined that 1973 is going to be still better than 1972.

New understanding

"We no longer have to sell them blood, horror, war, Israel in danger. There has been a great change — Jews understand now what it's all about, they know we're in for a very long haul. At one time, I used to worry that people would get tired of giving and working and raising money, that they'd say that Israel must eventually stand on her own feet. Now there's a solidarity with Israel, a comprehension that it's not enough to win one war, that we are bound up for ever with Israel."

For this reason, he welcomes the entry of the fund-raisers into new areas, advising on how problems can be solved.

Jewish brains are as good as any on earth — why shouldn't Israel get the full benefit of them? As the old axiom says, two heads are better than one.

The more we get the fund-raisers don't intend to be mere rubber stamps.

"So what's going to happen when they start pushing new ideas which they expect to put into practice? The Zionists have built-in knowledge about Israeli attitudes and practices — we know the oral law of the Alignment, for instance, but I doubt whether our friends the fund-raisers do. We understand an institution like Kupat Holim, and what it means to the country's health. The others are liable to find themselves in clashes they don't understand."

Another veteran Zionist, Charlotte Jacobson, Chairman of the Jewish Agency in America, welcomes the introduction of new blood. When the Assembly divided into workshops as soon as the main addresses had been delivered, she headed the one devoted to higher education.

"We have to decide on the division of \$70m. Israel now has seven institutes of higher learning. Everybody wants to encourage new universities, like the University of the Negev. On the other hand, the older institutions want to expand — if they don't they may decline. So how we divide the money is vital to the future of Israel. The more informed opinions we have about education, the better."

AN opportunity to have some say in Israel's housing policy is welcomed with enthusiasm by Mr. and Mrs. Nessim Gaon, of Geneva. Mr. Gaon, a diamond industrialist and real estate developer, is Chairman of the Keren Hayesod-United Israel Appeal and Bonds.

He is also President of the World Sephardi Union, and he and his wife have some very harsh things to say about Israel's housing policy, which they consider to have been for many years ill-considered, inadequate and indeed disastrous.

"Why don't you see any slums in Switzerland or Germany?" he demands. "Because decent housing is provided for low-income groups. They can't get mortgages of up to 90 per cent of

the purchase price, payable in anything up to 50 years, or they can live at low rentals."

"Everybody I meet in Israel is a slave to the debts he has incurred in order to get some sort of roof over his head. It offends one's sense of justice. What is more, the effect is that people are chained to a locality; they can't move without incurring great losses. This is economically unsound in a modern society, which requires mobility of labour. Just think what will happen if Israel ever has a serious depression (you had some signs of it in the 1968 recession). If a couple of large industries in a town fail, everybody will want to move, but won't be able to."

Changing ideas

Through the Agency's housing commission, he hopes to get Israelis to change all their ideas about finances for housing and rental. He also believes that the Government should get out of construction, and leave it to private enterprise; it should concentrate on subsidising mortgages and rentals.

Gentler criticism was voiced by Thomas O. Hecht, National Vice-President of the United Jewish Appeal of Canada, and Leo Marcus, the National Director of the Appeal, who, incidentally, defined the non-Zionist wing of the Agency for me.

"I wouldn't call us non-Zionists," says Mr. Hecht. "I'm a member of the Zionist Organization myself. We believe in aliyah just as much as anybody else in the Diaspora. But we don't believe in party politics in Zionism; maybe that's the difference. I think we should just be called the fund-raisers, and I define a fund-raiser as a non-political Jewish activist who considers Israel to be the centrality of Jewish life."

He thinks that the Reconstituted Jewish Agency should function rather like a legislature reviewing a government's budget; it should decide on allocations and then review implementation and performance.

"We can influence the Israeli mobile homes to combat the slums. (Continued on page 10)

MISSILE BOAT PATROL

(Continued from page 7)

able to comprehend was that a missile boat is an amazingly complex piece of engineering. I began to realize why Shmuel had to spend eight years at sea before being placed in command. The knowledge a captain has to possess ranges from radio to gunnery, from navigation to mech-

anics. He has to understand the hundreds of systems aboard. Moreover, he has to be able to think of unorthodox solutions to any of the hundreds of problems that can crop up at any one time. The best classroom for this, I learned, was experience at sea. Before being put in command of a vessel, an officer has to serve

FUND-RAISERS

(Continued from page 7)

ent emergency came through us. I understand the fear of these becoming *ma'abarot* but this can be avoided if there are proper standards of maintenance."

With great tact, he expresses reservations about the lack of aesthetics in Israeli construction.

"Jews everywhere are in the forefront of the arts. It surprises us Canadians that Israel doesn't seem to have a feeling for the environment, and how to fit man-made structures into it. We have just built an absorption centre in Ashdod, which we think is architecturally a beauty. We are building two more, in Beersheba and Ashkelon, as a 25th anniversary present to Israel. They'll cost \$4m. over and above our campaign."

"Ours is a rare generation: We saw the Holocaust and then we were privileged to see the establishment of the State. We should all be involved in making Israel as wonderful as we can for future generations."

THE change in the Jewish Agency has little significance for South African Jews, since they don't have such an animal as a non-Zionist running around loose. The South African Zionist Federation still controls the Israel United Appeal, and the Zionists are also the fund-raisers. Julius Weinstein, newly elected Chairman of the Federation, points out that 17,000 people voted in the recent Zionist elections. In a total community of 118,000, including children, this means that over 50 per cent of Jewish adults went to the Zionist polls, an extraordinarily high figure.

He welcomes the decision to give Jews abroad a greater say in the disposal of funds, since this will provoke even greater interest and an increased sense of identification with Israel. The 12 members of the South African delegation are taking part in many different Assembly workshops, but Mr. Weinstein does not think that the Diaspora should try to control how the money is spent in Israel.

"The South African Jews have always been very disciplined and have handed over funds to the Israelis to use as they thought best. Basically, we believe that the man on the spot is the best judge of his own needs. So we favour increased responsibility, more advice, whatever help we can give. But we certainly won't interfere or dictate."

LOUIS Klein is President of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, the roof body of the community, as well as National Federal Chairman of the Karen Hayesod-United Israel Appeal, and President of the Australia-Israel Chamber of Commerce. Incidentally, he owns the "Australian Jewish Times," the Jewish paper in Sydney.

"The Australian experience was rather different from the South African."

"Up to three years ago, the Karen Hayesod was an adjunct of the Jewish Agency. Then it became a separate entity. It had its own funds and its own structure."

majority of the donors were not members of the Organisation. I myself am not.

"I have no doubt that the re-constituted Jewish Agency gives us a greater sense of participation and involvement. I am very sorry that all our donors are not here to share this experience with me. The Assembly has been both practical and inspiring."

"Of course, we none of us want to interfere with what the Israelis are doing. We don't have the right to do so just because we provide money. Since we don't go into the Army, we don't bear the same burdens as the Israelis. I see our job as fund-raising and advising. We have had a lot of experience, and some of us can make suggestions about housing, bureaucracy, finance, and so on. But we must stop short at that. Our only aim is to help, not to take over in any way."

THE Young Leadership Cabinet of the U.J.A. consists of 240 people who have demonstrated leadership quality in fund-raising, promoting Jewish education, and advancing ideas about Judaism and Israel. Unlike some youth movements in Zionism, the Cabinet takes its age limitation very seriously — at 40, junior is booted upstairs to join the aged.

Michael Pelavin, a Flint, Michigan lawyer, the 1973 Chairman of the Cabinet, explains why it was formed ten years ago.

"We had to find a different approach to a generation for whom the Holocaust and the creation of the State of Israel were historical facts, at most distant memories, not the traumatic personal experiences that have dominated the lives of our parents. But how to reach the new generation? We do so by emphasizing the need for the Jews, and Judaism, and Israel, to survive — three separate things, but closely intertwined. If our generation doesn't guarantee their survival, nobody will."

"People who had never identified with Israel did so when the chips were down. They found that they didn't have to be Zionists to be involved with Israel, that everything that happened to Israel reflected on them."

"This is the approach we sell. And the young people buy it. We sent groups to Israel to meet leaders and to discuss problems. They get very involved, and this is what we're after."

"Here at the Assembly, I've had a rare chance to meet Jews from all parts of the world and to develop interpersonal relations. In fact, we've arranged to have a joint trip of young leaders from England, South Africa, Belgium, France, Italy, Austria, and the United States to several countries so as compare experiences."

And Michael Pelavin's final words might well have been a summation for all the delegates:

"Of course, this Assembly is a good idea. The greater the involvement with Israel, the greater the amount of funds we can raise. And we hope we can do it."

in every section of it. Only when he is thoroughly familiar with all aspects of his craft does he assume overall responsibility. The men realize this, and perhaps this is the explanation for the respect in which they hold their Commander.

What seemed to irk the crew more than anything else was the lack of public recognition for what they are doing.

"Most people, when they see a sailor," complained the boat's sergeant, "think we are *jobnikim* (desk soldiers)."

Since we wear no distinctive badges, like pilots or paratroopers, and since our work will remain classified for years to come so that little of what we do can be published, people think that we remain moored in Haifa Port for the three years of our service. Little do they know how hard we work."

According to Shmuel — who decided to get married four months ago — he spends most of the week at sea. Some of the time, when he is ordered to check a certain suspicious craft, he gives it chase. He spends nights away from home. Works 16- and 18-hour days without benefit of

overtime. Bears greater responsibility than most people his age and earns far less than most people "outside."

"I realize that we cannot expect the I.D.F. to pay us what Haifa stevedores earn," he said, "but we do ask that we be granted some of the recognition that is our due."

Shmuel could come up with no easy explanation of why he was doing what he was doing for a living. After trying to explain for some time he finally admitted: "Well I suppose the real reason is that I happen to love the sea, and think that the war we are fighting is a just one."

His feelings were echoed by the six officers in the cabin — all of whom admitted that they were happy, despite their gripes. Food could be better, I was told, and so could personal equipment such as overcoats and boots. More leave would be appreciated and so would greater attention from the Soldiers' Welfare Committee. Like soldiers, sailors' complaints never end — but this time they seem to be more valid than usual.

After we sailed into port 14

long, long hours later, I said my farewells. I was off to a warm breakfast and a day's sleep. The sailors behind were busy refueling and loading supplies. In time they would be on their way — this time for a 28-day tour.

THIS boat is one of 10 missile boats currently in the Navy made headlines. It was the first of the boats impounded by the French in 1969 — from Chateaufort to Israel. According to sources, six more missile boats will soon be added to the fleet — all Israel-made. The first, the INS *Rehavim*, was launched on February 10, 1973. The new boats are larger and have twice the range of the Chateaufort boats. It has been reported abroad that the intended for patrolling the Sea. There is little doubt that will greatly increase the Navy, and in so doing reduce some of the work currently being borne by the

of the Cherbourg boats.

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Olga Schatz's second homecoming



OLGA SCHATZ'S

Olga Schatz arrived in Israel from the Soviet Union a few weeks ago. She had been here before, from 1920 to 1927, as a member of Gdud Ha'avoda. SRAJA SHAPIRO, who has interviewed her, reports.

"It may hurt other people, you know..."

Although she is exhilarated by the freedom of Israel she still has not shaken off the feeling that there are hidden eyes and ears everywhere.

Nevertheless, she says, "Here I fear nothing." And the Jews in the Soviet Union, too, know that there exists a country in which the Jew is not a second-class citizen. "And that gives them courage."

SECOND HOMECOMING

Hananja Herman

OLGA Schatz was one of four people who in 1949 applied to the Israeli Embassy in Moscow for a passport to return to Israel. They all had Russian passports, and the authorities refused them go. Mrs. Schatz finally arrived here a few weeks ago. She had been in Russia 46 years; it was a happy life.

Most high-school pupils in revolutionary Russia, Olga had dreams of a new society where all men would be equal. Her native town in Russia was overrun by Germans during the First World War. They were nice people at all the fascists they met later, and they helped the Yiddish and Russian, Olga to know German well, which helped her enormously in later years.

First arrival
In 1920 she came to Palestine, a pioneer of a new society, like many pioneers of the time, worked for a pitiful salary, a pioneer of a new society, breaking stones to build the Gdud Ha'avoda offering a new start. The movement of young idealists like Olga, eventually some of them on establishing a community. Eventually some of them in Eilat Harod and Tel Aviv in the Jezreel Valley.

group of Gdud Ha'avoda left led by a young man, Manahem Elkand, preferred a political fight for the Russian Revolution. The Communist party was illegal in Palestine. Under the British, Elkand and comrades passed themselves off as "Democrats." None of them were arrested in 1927 they were charged for a group of Russian Zionists.

Justice Minister Ya'acov Shapir, were among the Zionists who came to Eilat under the exchange. Olga had left the country of her own free will. She was definitely a left-winger, closely associated with the underground Communists in Palestine. She began thinking of leaving her own life. She left Gdud Ha'avoda and went to work in Jerusalem, and then in Tel Aviv.

When my father died, there were unemployment. A girl unable to do anything but

menial work. "I decided for purely personal reasons to go to Moscow."

She refuses to expand on what those personal reasons were. "There are people alive who might suffer if I told too much." She will not even give the name of her birthplace.

Obviously, Moscow was disenchanted. Food was scarce and work was not easy to find. The universities were run by bureaucrats who asked for certificate after certificate and students had to pass exams in long-forgotten subjects before they would give the necessary permission to study. Olga chose Russian and German literature. She also married and had a daughter. Her husband died a year later.

Stalin terror
The Stalin purges were already being felt. People began to disappear.

"I visited a friend once, and asked about her children. 'Why don't you ask about my husband?' she replied. 'They took him last night.' He had been in Palestine, too. He was a devoted Party man; he believed in everything the Party said. He never touched liquor because it was against Party precepts. But he was charged with anti-Party activity."

Olga Kagan-Schatz, too, lost her Party affiliation. She decided to move to the Crimea, where the climate was better for her ailing child.

For a living, she taught German. After a time, the authorities discovered that she had a university degree, but no teacher's certificate, so she went back to Moscow to take the necessary exams. And it was in Moscow that it transpired that she was technically an alien, not a Soviet citizen.

"When I arrived, I was registered immediately as a Soviet citizen. But I had no naturalization certificate. The war had just started, and I was ordered not to return to Simferopol, where my daughter was. They allowed me to live in the Bashkir Republic, near the Ural mountains."

Nobody in Simferopol could be bothered to send the little girl to her mother. When the Nazis overran the Crimea, the child was murdered, along with the members of the family she was living with.

Ufa, the capital of Bashkirya, is not much of a town compared with Moscow, but it had a secondary school in which Olga Schatz taught German. Despite its great distance from Moscow, the omnipresent Secret Police kept a very

watchful eye on the inhabitants. A teacher of geography was arrested one day because he failed to mention the glory of the Volga during a lesson devoted to the mighty Amazon.

"He was a Jew and got carried away by his own description. But nobody came to his rescue, all the other teachers said it was extremely unpatriotic to overlook the Volga." She herself became the victim of a slander: one of her pupils complained she was cruel to him.

"It was nonsense. I helped him to prepare his lessons. But I was an alien, so they had an eye on me. I was transferred to a small town in Bashkirya, but I was allowed to continue with my teaching."

This happened some time after her visit to the Israel Legation in 1949. Nobody was to be trusted.

"A man could profess his love but testify against you." She was worried when Stalin launched his campaign against "cosmopolitans." "Everybody knew he meant the Jews. Imagine using as a pejorative, a concept which is one of the finest in the world! To be a citizen of the world rather than to belong to a small patch of earth — isn't that wonderful? Heine was a citizen of the world. So was Marx, wasn't he? Didn't they know that this 'cosmopolitan' baiting was setting loose the latent anti-Semitism of the Russian people?"

Doctors trial

Then there were the "economic" trials, with the press reports stressing the Jewish names of the accused. For all her training in keeping her mouth shut, Olga Schatz could not suppress her satisfaction when the doctors whom Stalin put on trial were finally released.

"I did not rejoice when Stalin died; anybody's death is sad. But the release of the doctors was significant. It indicated a change of policy."

But not for her. Shortly after Stalin's death, she was arrested and charged with anti-Soviet activity. Her file was bulky; it contained details of everything she had done or said anywhere she lived in the Soviet Union. Her visit to the Israel Legation was there: the rooms in the Israel mission were tapped, and her conversation with Namir was there on record. She was accused of revealing a state secret when she told Namir that Elkand and most of his comrades in their Crimean "kibbutz" had been liquidated.

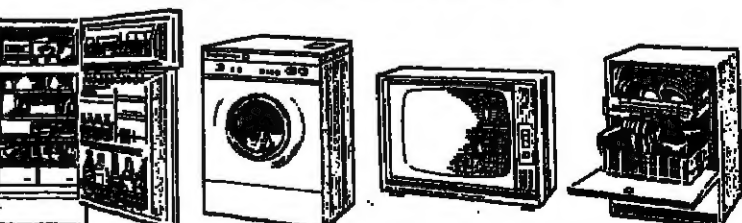
She was sentenced to 25 years in prison, but was released three years later, when Khrushchev



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Bridge: some hands, methods and verses

By George E. Levinrew

BRIDGE books are published in great variety and frequency, with bridge stars among the writers sharing their experiences. Risi Markus, the British internationalist who regularly attends Israel's annual International Bridge Festival, has just published two new books, **COM-MON SENSE BRIDGE** (London, the Bodley Head, 171 pp. £1.50) is highly recommended. The author tells how she became interested in bridge and touches on some of the personalities and problems in high-level tournament bridge. She describes her own approach to the game, which becomes useful advice. The book consists mainly of an interesting collection of bridge hands which she and others have played. Her second book, **ACES AND PLACES** (London, Seeker and Warburg, 140 pp. £2.10), describes interesting deals she encountered in her bridge travels.

W. KELSEY of England is an outstanding bridge writer. His **MORE KILLING DEFENCE AT BRIDGE** (London, Faber and Faber, 192 pp. £2.50) is an excellent quiz book in the generally neglected area of the defence at the bridge table. This book is at a higher level than his previous book, "Killing Defence

More Killing Defence at Bridge



H.W. Kelsey

at Bridge," and is especially recommended for the advanced player.

At long last we actually have a book of bridge poetry: **Harold Becker's A POET'S GUIDE TO CONTRACT BRIDGE** (Philadelphia, Dorrance, 86 pp. \$2.95). He has many excellent tips, especially for beginners. On Blackwood he writes: "Not every slam can find its way through Blackwood — what it has to say. Misleads if you a void possess; Choose other pathways to success."

Many of the verses have a pleasant humorous twist. The book may serve well as a bridge prize or a gift for your bridge-addicted spouse.

BRIDGE mathematicians also have their say in Frederick H. FROST's **BRIDGE ODDS COM-PILETE** (2nd revised edition, Waltham, Mass., George Coffin, 94 pp. \$4.95). The book is full of tables on probabilities and distribution. I agree with the author that "The mathematics of probability... give a comprehensive and accurate picture of the probable situations which you will meet at the bridge table and they can throw considerable light upon the type of tools you will require to meet these situations."

And now for books on Precision, which has taken the bridge world by storm. There is the excellent treatise by Charles M. Goren, **PRECISION SYSTEM OF CONTRACT BRIDGE BIDDING** (N.Y., Simon and Schuster, 218 pp., paperback \$1.95). And C. Wel, the founder of Precision, presents **PRECISION SYSTEM** (adapted by Belladonna and Garozzo, 24 pp. \$1).

When Morris Turner draws his children trying to find the way in an integrated community, he proves that he is more than a mere observer.

Shades of humanity

GOD IS GROOVY by Morris Turner, N.Y., New American Library (Signet), 130 pp. \$0.75. Reviewed by Joan Hooper

MORRIS Turner got his first inspiration for an integrated comic strip from a cartoonist dinner meeting with Charles Schulz of "Peanuts" fame and later from meeting comedian Dick Gregory. His "We Fals" now syndicated, appears in over 45 newspapers in the U.S. and elsewhere, and has received many awards, including the Brotherhood Award of the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League.

His children are Black, White, Puerto Rican and Chinese, Jewish, Protestant and Catholic. Theirs is or would be, such an ideal society where we are different but, oh, so tolerant. They say the kind of thing that usually would elicit a groan and a giggle. For instance: "I guess this land of milk and honey would be all right, but I'd rather have peanut butter and jelly." (1)

When Morris Turner draws his children trying to find the way in an integrated community, he proves that he is more than a mere observer.

Tomorrow and the kibbutz

WHEN the science of economics started its inquiry into human activity, its major subjects were in current terminology — farming efficiency and rural development, because agriculture was then the mainstay of most people, industry an exception, and commerce no more than a sideline. Not only the classics — up to Marx — concerned themselves primarily with rural problems. Even Lenin got his degree in economics for his work on the progress of capitalism in peasant Russia.

Today we tend to regard countryside issues as obsolete. But for all its importance in terms of output, technology, social impact (and pollution), industry is still the occupation of a minority of humanity, and most of our contemporaries are still peasants in what we deluge to call developing countries. Problems of rural economics are still with us more than most people realize. They are the backbone to Mao's China and to Allende's Chile, no less than to the situation in our own region. And while the world continues to move towards urban patterns of life and production, hopes entertained not so long ago of solving all social problems by rapid industrialization tend to look increasingly dubious. Professor Jack M. Patter writes in "Rural Development in a Changing World":

"In the future it will no longer be possible to rely on the pull of industry and commerce to reduce rural populations significantly. For the foreseeable future most of the world's large rural populations will remain exactly where they are. And this makes rural developmental planning even more important than at present. The traditional solution to the rural problem by some economists of simply finding ways to encourage and speed the process of getting the peasant out of the country and into the city is no longer a rational policy. The rural population will be with us and will increasingly have to receive priorities in capital investments and planning which are now given to the urban areas."

This new, aggressive approach to rural development, involving a reappraisal of many conventional beliefs, is felt in many of the papers assembled in this informative and thought-provoking book. It derives not only from the realization that there are quantitative limits to industrial growth, but also from the reassessment of rural and agricultural potentials and growth patterns.

Some of the contributors investigate the complex dependence of agricultural progress on the countryside's economic and social infrastructure. Henri Mendras traces it to the relations between the village common people and local notables. Yitzhak Abt points out that traditional farmers in Brazil or East Africa may be right in spurning the use of fertilizers and mechanical equipment. Other writers dwell on the need for comprehensive regional planning. The future of family farms — condemned to disappearance by experts long ago — rural cooperatives and peasant organizations is now seen in a new light. And repeatedly Israel is cited for its pioneering achievements, or at least daring experiments.

Some contributors stress the implications of rural development for the industrial countries, which are visibly approaching the limits of urbanization as a way of life detached from, and opposite to, rural countryside. According to Demetrios S. Iatrides, the U.S. is already moving beyond the suburban to an "exurban" stage. This is characterized by dispersal of population to areas far from the big cities, bringing in its wake a new mix of urban and rural people, of industry and farming, though no longer self-sufficient. It is a new stage in the process of rural development.

Rural infrastructure. Some of the contributors investigate the complex dependence of agricultural progress on the countryside's economic and social infrastructure. Henri Mendras traces it to the relations between the village common people and local notables. Yitzhak Abt points out that traditional farmers in Brazil or East Africa may be right in spurning the use of fertilizers and mechanical equipment. Other writers dwell on the need for comprehensive regional planning. The future of family farms — condemned to disappearance by experts long ago — rural cooperatives and peasant organizations is now seen in a new light. And repeatedly Israel is cited for its pioneering achievements, or at least daring experiments.

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RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN A CHANGING WORLD Edited by Ranan Weiss with the assistance of Yehuda H. Landau. MIT Press and Settlement Study Centre, Rehovot, 587 pp. \$20.

SAVO LETOLOT HAVANA-SIN HAAGHARIM BA-MIZRAH HAICHON KUPON (Introduction to the History of Agrarian Relations in the Middle East 1800-1970) by Gabriel Bass. Hakibbutz Hama'ariv, 187 pp.

Reviewed by Moshe Ater

linked to national (and world) grids and markets. The secondary effects of this development range from rampant land speculation to growing social tension in the major cities, increasingly dominated by the poor Blacks as a result of the exodus of the White well-to-do. The conventional type of commuting or migrant industrial worker tends increasingly to become a socially disruptive element.

Few of the contributors offer solutions for the problems raised. But they serve a purpose by unearthing and frankly stating the problems. As Herman Pribe, in perhaps the most thoughtful of these countries.

UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA


Registration of New Students for 1973-74

January 14-March 15, 1973.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES (B.A.)

Humanities

BIBLICAL STUDIES • HEBREW LITERATURE (OFFERED AS A MAJOR OR DOUBLE-MAJOR SCHEME) • HEBREW LANGUAGE (OFFERED AS A MAJOR OR DOUBLE-MAJOR SCHEME) • HISTORY OF THE MIDDLE EAST • JEWISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE • PHILOSOPHY • POLITICAL SCIENCE • PSYCHOLOGY • SOCIOLOGY • STATISTICS • TEACHING OF JEWISH HISTORY AND JEWISH HISTORY (OFFERED AS A MAJOR OR DOUBLE-MAJOR SCHEME) • ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (OFFERED AS A MAJOR OR DOUBLE-MAJOR SCHEME) • FRENCH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (OFFERED AS A MAJOR OR DOUBLE-MAJOR SCHEME) • GERMAN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (OFFERED AS A MAJOR OR DOUBLE-MAJOR SCHEME) • ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (OFFERED AS A MAJOR OR DOUBLE-MAJOR SCHEME) • SPANISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (OFFERED AS A MAJOR OR DOUBLE-MAJOR SCHEME) • PORTUGUESE LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (OFFERED AS A MAJOR OR DOUBLE-MAJOR SCHEME) • ARABIC LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (OFFERED AS A MAJOR OR DOUBLE-MAJOR SCHEME) • TURKISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (OFFERED AS A MAJOR OR DOUBLE-MAJOR SCHEME) • 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AN APOLOGY

from
Ephraim
Kishon

DEAR Sir,
Before I try to explain my unapologetic behaviour of last Wednesday night, I should like to tell you about the deep depression in which I was plunged when I turned on my TV set at 8.15 in the evening. Yes, with your permission, I was sore as hell at those goofing Tel Aviv Maccabi shlemiels. I don't think I've been that mad since the beginning of the century. I hated their 34-times backward players with an elemental hatred, to say nothing of Chublin's antics, Brodie's orbital misses and that nincompoop Yachosua Rosin's hysterical outbursts. They all belonged in hall or better still in kindergarten, to learn the rudiments of basketball.

But, as I turned on the set with a sadistic smile on my lips, Dan Shilon's urbane face showed up on the screen and informed us that our team was leading Simmental by 20 points. There are no words to describe the wave of love which engulfed me. I was ready to embrace the boys bodily, to shake and go on shaking Brodie's golden arm, to hover in homage to Steve Chublin's legendary drive, and to convert Ron Dunlop (2.10m.) to Judaism. As for Mr. Rosin, the trainee of the wonder team, only one expression does him justice: "A genius!"

The rest is somewhat lost in my Jewish consciousness, because the tension the like of which I had not felt since the end of World War II. According to the testimony of my family, I accompanied with staccato shouts of a definitely animal character, stamped my hands into pulp at Chublin's phenomenal sharpshooting and once — so I am told — when Micha Schwarz, the Israeli of the team, scored two baskets in a row, I rushed at the screen and kissed its cold glass.

Cheering them on
"Get them to commit a foul!" I shrieked at the boys. "What are you waiting for? Come on, drop down!"

The typewriter is still trembling under my fingers, my dear Sir. The last — albeit injured — action of the Maccabim, Dunlop (2.15m.), raised the tension to 25 points, then the giant Erich Menz presented another two to the nation, and then Tikva Mor came and apologized for the technical hitch and Rosin collected the team for an extraordinary final whistle. My temper and break all the bones against the raviolis from Milan... and we led by 29 points in the end. And then the telephone rang.



About an hour later I lifted the receiver.
"Who's speaking?" you, sir, asked at the other end of the line, and I answered, if memory serves me:
"Joseph Legia."
And not only that, but I added that I was out of the house, get off the line. To my great regret, at this point the connection with you, sir, was severed, because I pressed down the thingumajig, and Art Kenny, Simmental's American mercenary, knocked us down to 26 points, but Halm Starkman outdid himself and reached as high as Renato Barrierra's chin and again only two-and-a-half baskets hung between us and the longed-for tie...

Another interruption
And then you, sir, rang again. As I lifted the receiver, Joseph Barometti threw a marvelous basket and the Turkish referee didn't disallow it and that upset me terribly. If I'm not mistaken, I sent you a sort of Bronx cheer over the wire and then used some Hungarian expressions which encourage a man who dares to ring 57 seconds before the end of a game to do certain things to his maternal ancestor and then, just then, Steve Brodie and Menkin, the whole enboddie, committed their fifth foul, and had to leave the court, and I deeply apologize to you, sir, for the animal epithet I attached you in sheer despair. I didn't mean it.

I humbly beg your forgiveness for my lack of courtesy, which was caused by the tension and the Levantine refereeing. I am completely disgusted with myself for getting so carried away by the hopeless play of this disappointing team, which is quite unable to wipe off at home (!) a ridiculous difference of 34 points against a mere European champion. I am furious with that prima donna of a Mr. Chublin with his scandalous behaviour, to say nothing of Brodie's stupid misses.

I am very sorry about my uncivilized behaviour, my dear sir. It will never happen again, I solemnly promise you, except in the next game, if there is one. And if there is, kindly refrain from calling my home before the final whistle, otherwise I'll lose my temper and break all the bones in your stupid body.

Translated by Yehoshua Goldmann
By arrangement with "Me'ariv"

...Or Did I Dream a Dream?

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Portion of the Week, Exodus 25.1 — 27.19
Haftarah, I Kings 5.8 — 6.13
(Kngl. 5.12 — 6.13)

Biblical lumberjacks



THE portion of this week deals with the details of the commandment to erect the Sanctuary in the Wilderness; the Haftarah, with the building of the Temple in Jerusalem by Solomon. The timber exclusively used in the former was the shittah, the acacia (probably the *Acacia albica*); the timber almost exclusively used in the latter was the majestic cedar of Lebanon. Almost, because although Solomon applied to Hiram King of Tyre for supplies of this wood only, Hiram added to it broshim, probably cypress wood. The question of the provenance of the acacia is the source of a fascinating legend in the Midrash to which I have had occasion to refer on numerous occasions in the past.

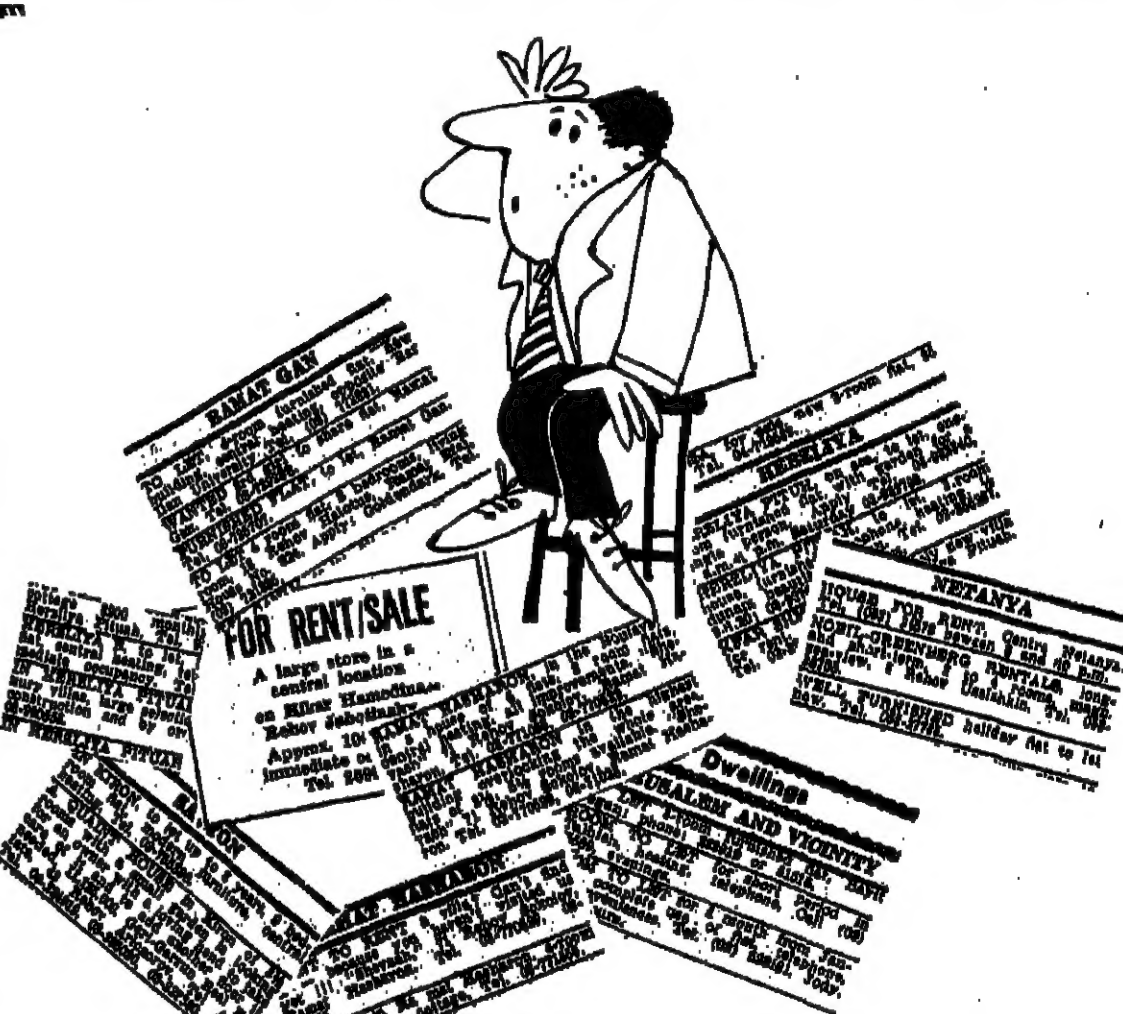
The rhetorical question upon which it is based, "whence did the Children of Israel obtain acacia wood in the Wilderness?" seems clearly to be answered by the fact that it is the one characteristic tree of the desert of Sinai. Must it then be understood as "whence did they obtain

acacia wood which would provide planks of the size given in the erection of the Sanctuary?" It would seem so since the thorn acacia of the desert is quite unsuitable for that purpose. A similar question could be asked about the cedar of Solomon's Temple since the cedar does not grow naturally in Israel, needing as it does an altitude of some 1,200 metres. But the Bible itself answers the question. They were obtained, as stated, from Hiram King of Tyre, in answer to a request to him from Solomon. (I Kings 5.6-8).

There is, however, one detail which is worthy of some

comment. Although Solomon sent a levy of no less than 10,000 men at a time to help in the provision of that costly timber, it is obvious that they were employed only in a secondary and unskilled capacity. The hewing of these huge trees was a highly skilled task of which the untrained Israelites were incapable. The actual hewing was done by Hiram's men, as Solomon explicitly states, "For there is not among us any that can hew timber so like unto the Sidonians" (5.6).

But it was not only the hewing. The task of bringing the logs down the slopes of the mountains to the seashore, and floating them down the Mediterranean to the Israeli port (probably Jaffa) and the loosening of the rafts when they arrived there, was also undertaken by those Sidonians, and we are afforded a picture which is usually associated with the famed logging lumberjacks of Canada. "My servants shall bring them down from Lebanon to the sea, and I will convey them by sea in rafts to the place which thou shalt appoint, and will cause them to be discharged there" (5.8).



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Steep, winding streets are a constant reminder that Safad is built on a mountain. (Photos by David Rubinger)

MOUNTAIN people are said to live longer than others. Safad's natives remember men and women, most of them gone now, who enjoyed good health at 90 and over.

"Perhaps it's the clean and crisp air, or the more sedate way of life in a small town. Who knows?" reflects town clerk Shmuel Harroush, who was born there.

Throughout Galilee, robust health and longevity are indigenous. Certainly the daily, lifelong effort of climbing up steep paths or steps strengthens the heart muscles. White-bearded *hasidim* still walk up and down briskly to their tiny synagogues, their breathing none the faster for the effort. Will cars corrode the arteries of the young in Safad as in other places?

At an elevation of 850 metres above sea level, Safad is Israel's highest town, slightly higher even than Jerusalem. The two have certain features in common: the luminous light, the beauty of their setting, the dignity of age. When, at dusk, the dipping sun tinges Safad's wrinkled face a dark gold, its walls and alleys don a prayer shawl woven by all the mystics who ever lived there and whisper a mysterious language that the initiated comprehend through an inner ear.

Golden Age

Both towns have a distinguished intellectual past. But that of Safad was not home grown but imported, like its artistic creativity today. Its Golden Age began in the 16th century, brought there by Jewish refugees from Spain. Mysticism was the intellectual fashion among its Jewish scholars. In contemporary Europe, brilliant men were extending the horizons of knowledge in science, mathematics, astronomy, geography. The brilliant men of Safad were still absorbed in medieval speculation and looked backward, searching for wisdom in the sacred writings of the past. Their deep, intense reflections remained contemplative.

The burst of religious exaltation was short-lived. Its only practical

manifestation was the introduction of a printing industry, and when the mystic mood mutated in the sophisticated civilisation of Spain, withered away in the intellectually barren soil of Safad, even this vanished, leaving hardly a trace. The need for it was gone with the departure of the rarefied scholarship that had produced the texts for the craftsmen in the presses.

Mystics are self-centred people and few leave their message in print. The only material relics of Rabbi Shimon Bar Yohai and of Rabbi Yitzhak Luria, Ashkenazi, the noted kabbalist known as Ba-Ari, are their tombs. They wrote no books and what they taught has been handed down by others with varying accuracy. They were outstanding, high-minded, moral men, who left their mark on contemporaries and disciples, but whose meaning posthumously must guess. They set a personal example, but over the centuries their outlines have become blurred, allowing later mystics scope for further speculation.

In addition to printing, the kabbalists brought another short-lived innovation to Safad: an industrial cooperative society. To make a living, they set up a textile plant based on locally grown flax. A document relating to the foundation of this cooperative, which they called *Sukkat Shalom* (the hut of peace), is still in existence. The 18th-century textile industry, according to contemporary records, gave employment to over 7,000 persons. In the 17th century it declined in the face of the more efficient European competition, and was finally wiped out altogether.

One book written in Safad and nearby Bnei during the 16th century flowering became one of the most famous in the Jewish world. This was the *Shulhan Arukh*, a compendium of the laws, regulations and prescriptions that should govern the life of Jews between the ages 13 and 120, the work of a Spanish Jew, Rabbi Yosef Ben Ephraim Caro. He finished the book in 1563 and had it published in Venice two years later. The Safad press did not

At an elevation of 850 metres, Safad is Israel's highest town. Its major assets are its brisk mountain air, its picturesque charm, and the splendour of its views. But there are disadvantages to living in a town which looks as though it came from an old picture-book, writes YA'ACOV ARDON.

Safad: Live the past



ish-Arab coexistence. Seen over a long period it must be regarded as less than an unqualified success and the reasons deserve to be studied in the light of modern problems.

There was little political Zionism before Herzl and Nordau. Jews had lived in Safad for centuries, indeed before the arrival of Islam. They had no political ambitions, and whatever land they owned, they had inherited or bought. Those points did not impress the *fellaheen* in the neighbourhood and the Druse in Galilee.

The first wholesale slaughter of Jews occurred in 1834, when several hundred Jews were massacred by Druse gangs and much Jewish property, including synagogues, was looted and burnt. There was much to be profited from such attacks, because the Jews were prosperous in small industries, crafts and farming.

Apart from minor incidents there was another massive outbreak in 1929, in Safad as elsewhere in the country. For some

reason, it is only the Hebron that is well known today; but that of probably worse. And in the 17th century, kill, loot and burn. And women, old and young, were murdered by a mob after four o'clock in the afternoon of August 24. Knives, cudgels and stones were used. The window of her house in her courtyard. The shops were set on fire.

One of the subsequent trials, an advocate, testified that in 1837, claimed that Jewish and Arab had lived here and out of your fathers' house. Among the lords and merchants.

THANKS to the small Spanish-born elite, to the life and Ha-Ari and his followers.

Some notable rabbi's reputation as a place of pilgrimage, Jerusalem and Hebron. In the 17th century, these four towns had covered, or re-discovered, the possibilities of fund-raising in the Diaspora. Safad was its separate ways to collect charitable needs. It must be that they competed; the advantages of public housing agencies, the better.

In the last 25 years the town has grown again, with a population that is now entirely Jewish. According to a recent publication of the Local Authorities Centre, this numbers 13,000; Mr. Harroush, the Town Clerk, puts it at 15,000.

Safad today lives on its past, its picturesque charm, and its natural assets: the fine climate, the clear air, the splendour of its views of mountains, valleys and Lake Kinneret.

Municipal dissent

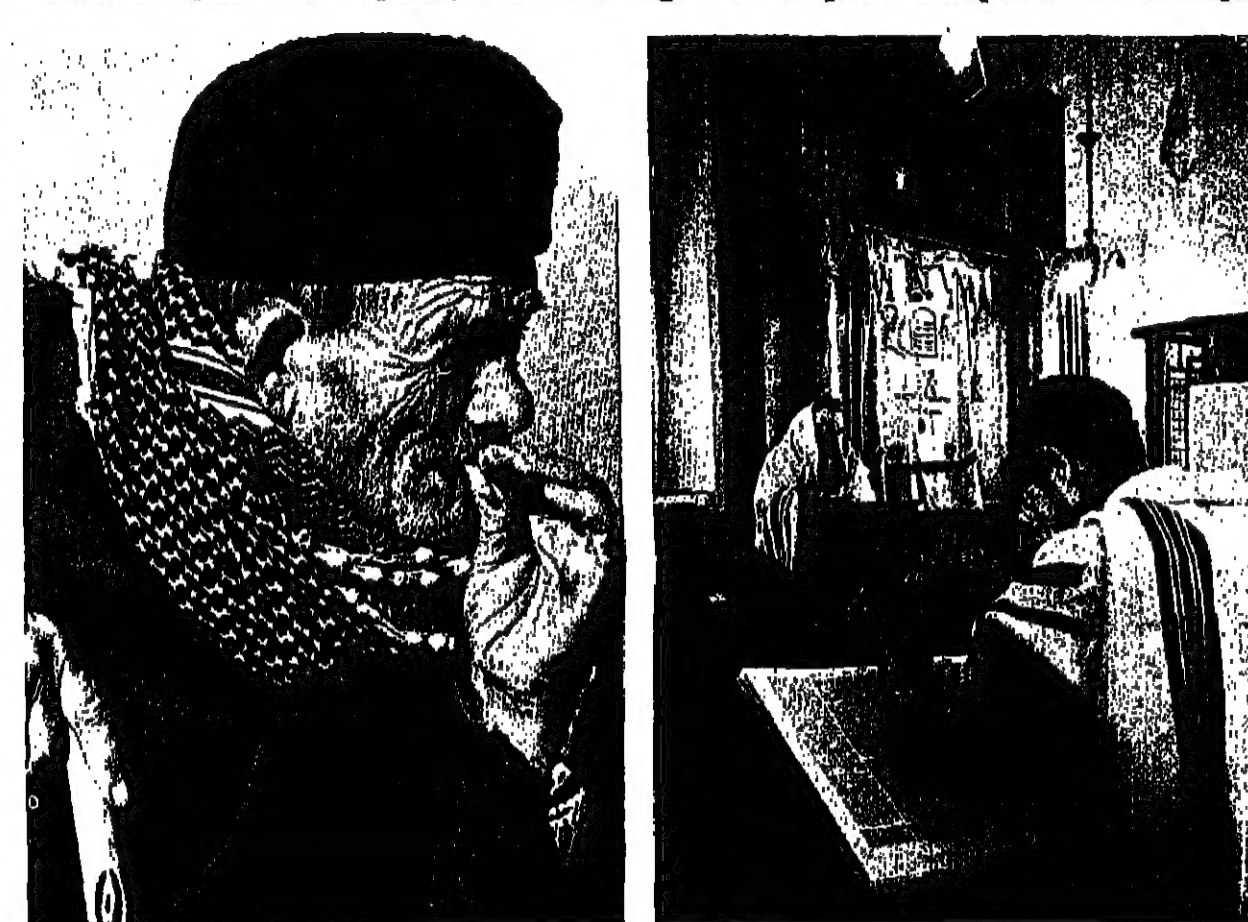
Instead of promoting the town's natural advantages as a summer resort, its elders in the town council make news by their sordid squabbles over prestige and personal interests. Mayors come and go, coalition agreements are made and broken, money is wasted and pressing public business is neglected.

The town council, an eleven-man team, and not one of the finest on the Safad sporting scene, is run by a Galil-dominated (five seats) coalition, headed by Mayor Eliahu Kadosh. He made news recently when he broke a Galil-Alignment rotation agreement, under which he should have ceded his post to an Alignment Councilman, Aharon Nahmias, on December 1.

This has, or should have, embarrassed Mr. Kadosh's leader, Menahem Begin, who has more respect for the sanctity of written agreements. Kadosh should have become deputy mayor; but now asserts that Nahmias made a third man deputy, thus denying



Kiryat Hatzayim, artists' quarter, rebuilt with regard for the past and respect for the landscape.



Grizzled Safad resident: Mountain people seem to live longer

Inside one of Safad's old synagogues.

him the consolation post.

But the Alignment in opposition has little cause to rejoice at the moral failure of the coalition, because one of its own, Ya'acov Huppert, is now a member of the State List. He was recently made a deputy mayor on half a salary, despite the objections and warnings of the Interior Ministry. These councilmen, in short, seem to be playing local politics like a private card game, with little regard for the public weal.

And the tasks facing Safad call for leadership by men of ability and high purpose. A master plan for a population of 30,000 will remain a sheet of paper unless it can find sources of income to sustain them. The new leaders will have to command respect in Jerusalem, as they do not today, when they plead for industries, credit, housing, infrastructural facilities.

Safad and Eastern Galilee need a new and shorter road to the centre of the country. For 25 years their approach roads have remained the same. At least the Acre-Safad road should have been lopped off it the grotesque and unnecessary loop that turns suddenly north, above Amir, passes Meron and Biri, and turns southeast again, to reach Safad by dangerous curves. The road is

a specimen of poor planning by the Mandatory government and needs to be corrected, or even replaced by a new one cutting across Lower Galilee up to Safad.

This would improve the town's chances of becoming an easy-to-reach holiday resort. Safad still has no regular taxi service to Haifa, and Egged buses have a monopoly.

Investment needed

"We could become as popular a resort for Israel as Brighton is for England," says the experienced Town Clerk who holds the administration together, "but for that we need investments, better facilities. We've had some government aid for lighting, sanitation and roads; but we want something that will attract back our young people with initiative who have moved away. We could expand development on Mt. Canaan. It lies 917 metres above sea level and is a priceless possession. We are only 200 km. from Jerusalem via the Jordan Valley."

Better roads and more hotel space during the hot summer would quicken the flow of tourists. "Safad is not an overnight stop on the map of the group-tour organisers. They stay for a few hours; have a meal, visit the Artists' Quarter and move on," says the Town Clerk.

Something spectacular needs to be done to shake up the fixed pattern. Tel Aviv University's Racanati Business School holds its renowned annual summer seminars in Safad, with the aid of the Rothschild Fund. Bar-Ilan University is ready to convert its tiny offshoot in Safad (165 attend courses) into a full Galilee University. The unending construction of a large government hospital in the southern quarter will perhaps end next year and bring a new generation of doctors to the town.

But more initiative and enlightened planning must come from within. The sweetish odour and unsavoury reputation of Elite's instant coffee plant, put ruthlessly amass in the middle of a residential area, the wanton bulldozing of Ha-Ari's house in the old Sephardi Quarter in the 400th anniversary year of his death, and other symptoms of callous disregard for Safad's perishable gems, have discredited past and present administrations alike. The town needs a master jeweller to restore their sparkle. Local politics is not the school which will produce him.

This article is part of a continuing 64-weekly *Fori* Magazine series on Israel's towns and their administrations.



See the bustling activity in new part of town.

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המחלקה לביטחון המדינה

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... away from home

By Hadassah Bat Haim

AS the days gallop towards my release from the fog and the frosty pavements that menace unwary pedestrians, the preparations for leaving mount to a frenzy. Now my room is cluttered with the commissions that I weakly accepted before I came.

There are the non-slip rubber shoes a trapezoid for the green-grocer's daughter-in-law's mother, a heavy lady I have heard (we are not personally acquainted), who has a phobia about slipping in the mud. There is a small box of plant fibre and some snowdrop bulbs for a friend's window box, a jar of a special kind of mustard pickles for an expectant mother who fancies just those.

There are also the things that I am charged to take back with me, mainly from complete strangers to persons unknown, at least to me. A cumbersome, though admittedly light, piece of electrical equipment for a former outside Ashkelon, an assortment of rattles, teething rings and matinee jackets for infants of varying degrees of newness and six door handles of a special kind for a wedding present for a Russian immigrant who is somehow connected with the butcher on the corner.

Reluctant though I am to leave the family here to manage the cooking and baby minding, it is increasingly obvious that they can cope with their domestic problems alone at least as well as they did before I came. I have the satisfaction of seeing the baby's appearance lose its uncanny likeness to one of those shrunken heads, surmounted by a thatch of artificial-looking black hair, so prized as souvenirs by explorers. Her puny limbs, on which no garment is small enough, are still like an illustration to the seventh age of man "youthful hose well saved (from her older brother) a world too wide for those shrunken shanks."

It now seems possible, even probable, that she will become indistinguishable from a real human being in time. In many areas she is still very much of a beginner.

TIME TO LEAVE

Breathing is one of them. She pants with enormous enthusiasm for the while, her gasps interspersed with chirps and sighs and gurgles as if the process were one she has just invented and wanted to improve before taking out a patent.

Occasionally she falls quite silent which quickly brings anxious adults

to the crib to find out if she hasn't abandoned the system altogether. Sometimes she creaks distinctly, a noise so suggestive of rusty bearings that from any other source it would demand the immediate application of an oil can.

And her eyes work on a swivel, something like a lizard's, so they

often give the impression of having moved round to the back. Focused or not, they seem to me often to have a biased and malevolent regard for me. I hope this is not personal, but as our most prolonged and intimate confrontations take place between two and four a.m., a time when I am not too well

disposed towards my fellow creatures, it may be just the side of my own sour outlook. As, in spite of these and obstacles, it is evident that without my guidance she stumbles slowly into the family of I can safely go home and her to go it alone.

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They flowerhead pattern in green and orange is used on a background of brown for two outfits (left) in Acrilan double jersey in styles designed by Lydia About. Pants suit is trimmed in plain brown jersey, model at right has collar, sleeves and pockets in chocolate brown Acrilan fleece. Centre: Cornflower and sky blue pied de poule jacquard check suits designed by Lili Dervish are

lavishly trimmed with bright blue coryllo fur, show sunray pleat and panel cut skirts. Both in Acrilan double jersey. Gay combination of tramline stripes and cloverleaf pattern seen in two little girl pants outfits (right) by Lydia About in Acrilan double jersey. Colour schemes are green, lime and yellow or two tones of grey with pink.

Computers and chemicals make new fashion fabrics

By Catherine Rosenheimer
Jerusalem Post Fashion Reporter

TEL AVIV. — You simply sit down at a special drawing board on one side of the computer, doodle a design, feed in information on colour, scale and form of repeat. Quarter of an hour later, out comes the design via a knitting machine at the other end of the system: a perfect jacquard replica of the original idea. This, in very simple terms, is, as I understood it, the idea of the "response" computer system, the brainchild of Effie Krazl of Sci-Tex, Herzliya.

When I first heard about it all last year, it sounded too good to be true — in place of waiting for weeks until a knitting machine can be freed from production for the lengthy business of producing design samples, the textile designer working with knitted fabrics can get an instant pattern of his idea and, moreover, minutes later, instruct the computer to adjust and modify it in any way he wants.

Work on development and perfection of the "response" system has been continuing at Sci-Tex for over three years. There is talk of setting up a design centre where designers, or knitwear manufacturers, can simply buy computer time and sit down and work out their designs on the spot. So far the operation has taken the form of research and development, with considerable success in selling the system abroad.

producers of Acrilan fibre, approached them. The two firms got together to produce a promotion collection of new fabrics designed to show knitwear producers the computer's scope, and the range of applications of Acrilan single and double jersey fashion fabrics. Acrilan's consultant textile designer, Hanna Brooks, worked closely with four designers, Lili Dervish, Sabena Schechter, Lydia About and Tamar Yuval, getting the computer to produce patterns to suit the type of "look" each designer wanted to work with. Seen here are some of the results: part of a collection of fashions in computer designed fabrics shown to a trade and press audience at the Tel Aviv Hilton earlier this week.

The idea was admirable but somehow, the final feedback did not add up to the most stimulating of fashion shows. Perhaps because, although the range of permutations possible with each individual motif is fascinating, many of the subtleties were lost when seen from a distance on the catwalk.

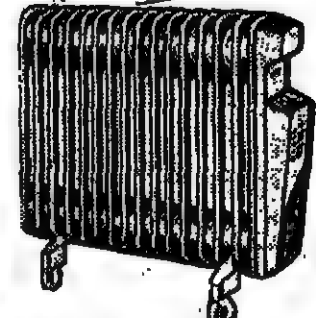
Computer at work
An example of how the computer works can be found in a little bird design which Hanna Brooks sketched for the computer, then requested it to repeat a second bird beside the first one, finally to mirror repeat two more birds facing the first pair. For a designer to do this by hand, then to translate it into a pattern for a regular knitting machine, would be a long and a laborious process. The idea, though ingenious, was shown in a very small-scale pattern looking like little more than

small dots on a plain ground to the audience. A pity, though Hanna did explain that she had purposely included very small-scale designs suited to any regular jacquard machine rather than the more complex ones with which the computer works for sampling.

Where the fashion styles themselves were concerned, Tamar Yuval's jokey collection of '60s look sexy styles added the brightest note to the show — styles which

ran riot with the full range of textile designs, suited themselves well to big, "kitschy" florals, and often combined the most unlikely of patterns to very striking effect. Lydia About tended to go for smaller, neater designs to suit her strictly Parisian fashion style. Sabena Schechter used larger jacquard designs while Lili Dervish came up with some effective pattern combinations in a range of sporting mix-and-match separates.

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Out of a job — into a new one

By Lea Levavi

Jerusalem Post Reporter

LOD AIRPORT. — After working for many years as American volunteers for Israel, more than 1,000 members of the Mizrahi Women's Organization of America have immigrated to Israel — and found themselves "out of a job." True, they could visit the nine institutions their organization maintains in Israel for underprivileged children and youth. But they missed the actual work of keeping those institutions running. So they started forming local chapters here, and the six chapters throughout the country — with many more on the way, they are sure — formed a council.

Ruth K. Jacobson — national president of the Mizrahi Women's Organization of America — came to Israel this week to attend the Zionist Action Committee meeting and to attend the first conference of this new-born Council of Chapters. As I waited for her and her vice-president, Evelyn Schreiber, at Lod, I got acquainted with two of her co-workers here: Belle Gitelman, Chairman of the Israeli Executive of the American Mizrahi Women (which is what the new-immigrant members of M.W.O.A. call them; she's here) and Ruth Sacks, Council chairman.

"Our executive supervises the day-to-day operation of our institutions here," Mrs. Gitelman — who was born in Hebron, went to the United States as a child and returned to Israel 11 months ago — explained. Mrs. Gitelman's Hebrew is excellent — though she left Hebron too young to have learned it fully there.

"The funding and directives come from America, but someone here has to carry them out. Now that we have so many immigrants, though, they want to work on the chapter level: meeting the emergency needs of an institution, or of an individual pupil, through money they raise here or contribute."

Mrs. Sacks, who has been here 14 and a half years, remembers how the few immigrant members here in those days (too few for a chapter) could do no more than get together socially — it was a way to find people to speak English with. But today the chapters are active. In one institution, a child lost both parents within a few months — and suddenly needed a pair of shoes.

"We had written to the States, they would have sent us the shoes — or the money to buy them. But that would have taken time. As soon as our Haifa chapter heard the



BELLE GITELMAN



RUTH K. JACOBSON



RUTH SACKS

story, the boy got his shoes." In another case, the principal of one of the schools said he would have to close the dining-room for lack of funds. Mrs. Gitelman called an executive meeting and it was decided to raise money to keep the dining-room open: a project in which the chapters, as well as individual members, contributed and worked.

The "Jumbo" with the president and vice-president on board finally arrived and Mrs. Jacobson joined us. "Our organization is not political," she stressed in answer to a question. "We are ideologically affiliated with Mizrahi but we are not at all involved politically. It's

actually against our constitution." Mizrahi women elsewhere in the world, she explained, do have political affiliations with the party. What makes Mizrahi institutions different from others here is its religious emphasis. Whether the project is a nursery, live-in high school, institution for homeless elementary school age children (who study at a neighbourhood religious public school) or community centre, the institution's programme includes traditional observances and religious education. "Most of us come from religious backgrounds and want to see children in Israel get that kind of education." The children referred

to the institutions come from some sort of traditionally-oriented background — and all three women felt strongly that they want and enjoy the traditional emphasis.

Originally, the institutions were primarily for Youth Aliya children but today most are welfare cases, often from broken homes. The community centres, Mrs. Jacobson added, are now beginning to serve the aged as well; Israel's first Golden Age Club was opened at one of their centres.

So far, most of the fund-raising done by the American Mizrahi Women here has been money out of the members' own pockets. "That's how they've been indoctrinated," Mrs. Sacks said proudly. But the newest fund-raising project, though aimed first at members, may be extended to the public at large. "Long ago, in the United States, we started a project called 'a mother in Israel.' A woman would give \$54 to symbolically become a mother to one of the children in our institutions here. Later, we instituted a 'father in Israel' and 'brother and

sister,' which entailed similar donations. Here, we're going to do it (aunt) in Israel for the first time. These days it is hard about anything anywhere mentioning inflation. The reasons our chapters have is that the money here in the United States doesn't go it used to. The women here don't understand us at all make up a salary here, instance, and all of a sudden tell them the teachers here an increase of somewhere 40%. They think we're crazy. I mean get raises, too, but percentages."

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Swedish Ambassador to Israel Mr. Sten A. Sundfelt, at the cornerstone laying ceremony earlier this week of the Waco Day Center in Jerusalem's Kfar Yehonatan Quarter. At right Mrs. Charlotte Ellinger, Chairman of Waco in Sweden, and at left Mrs. Aya Dinstein, Chairman of Waco in Israel. The center is being built with funds collected by Swedish radio and TV personnel, who in 1971 had organized a special drive for funds to help get refugees out of Poland. (Shmuel photo)

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RUBIN ACADEMY'S 25th ANNIVERSARY



MUSIC

YOHANAN BOEHM

ANNIVERSARIES are usually used as an excuse to look back at achievements and dwell on past difficulties and pride in past achievements; also, by the nature of things, to mourn all the friends and colleagues who were partners in the struggle and left this world before their time. Looking over the picture archive of the Rubin Academy of Music in Jerusalem with Yohanan Boehm, its administrative director, to choose some photos for this article, we came across too many faces that could not be included. On the other hand, this proves that the institution, which has stood up bravely to some bad buffeting, has now come to maturity. That the Prime Minister is giving her patronage to next week's celebration is also some indication of the importance attached to the Academy and its anniversary.

Looking back more than 50 years, music teaching in Jerusalem virtually dates from the death of Sidney Seal, a sergeant-major in General Allenby's army, who remained in Palestine; he married a Jewish girl and opened a music school off Hillier Street.

When Yehoshua Dostrovsky returned from his studies in Vienna in 1928, he found its doors closed. She gathered a few musicians and started a school "for music and movement." Shlomo Genter taught violin, Thelma Yelina the cello; Arieh Adileah and Salomon Polonsky opened piano

classes; Shoshana Orenstein instructed in dance movement; and Hadassah Sherman taught theory. In the mid-thirties, Emil Hauser arrived, Karl Salomon joined the ranks, and many more musicians arrived from Central Europe. Dr. Helena Kagan, the famous children's doctor, gave financial and moral support to the budding organization — now renamed the Palestine Conservatoire of Music — which moved to the Abyssinian Building in the Streets of the Prophets. A music shop was opened by Benno Balan of blessed memory. The High Commissioner, Sir Arthur Wauchope, himself a great music lover, issued some immigration certificates for music students, and thus a few more lives were saved from the Holocaust.

In 1946, a branch of the Conservatoire was opened in Tel Aviv, developing under the dynamic leadership of Gideon Pappas into what was later to become the Rubin Academy of Music at Tel Aviv University. The Jerusalem school closed down in 1947, following serious disputes between

management and teaching staff, but soon reopened as "The New Jerusalem Conservatoire and Academy of Music." After the War of Liberation, the institution was housed at the Schmidt Girls College, until the drive and co-operation of the then president of the America-Israel Cultural Foundation, Samuel Rubin, the Mayor of Jerusalem, Gershon Agron, and the chairman of the A.I.C.F. in Israel, Eliezer Perl, resulted in the acquisition of the former Schocken Villa in Talbieh. In the process, its name was changed again, this time to "The Samuel Rubin Academy of Music in Jerusalem."

Next week's celebration is in honour of 25 years of uninterrupted activity. Achievements of cultural or educational institutions cannot be measured in statistics, and only the many alumni carrying on the profession as practising or teaching musicians testify to successful work.

More space needed

In its 15 years in the building next to the Foreign Minister's residence, developments and expansions have outgrown space, and the Academy is in dire need of more accommodation and more suitable working conditions. There are plans for adding two storeys to the main building to provide the necessary room for classes, and a proper auditorium would seem to be essential for students' concerts and similar activities.

The expanding Opera Workshop started in 1971 under the guidance of the world-famous singer and teacher, Jennie Tourel, needs decent working conditions — make-up rooms, experimental stages, orchestra space, a small theatre, etc. The building houses not only the preparatory classes, the Conservatoire and the Academy proper, but the Dance Academy — the only one in Israel, founded by Haasia Levy-Agron in 1961 — and the five classes of the high school, also founded in 1961. There is a musical instrument museum, which in ten years has collected several hundred items — Western and Oriental, African and Far-Eastern. There is the library established in 1958, and continually expanded by its Chicago patrons Fanny and Max Targ ("Americans for a Music Library in Israel" — A.M.L.I.).

Two years ago, an electronic studio was added, under the direction of Zvi Avni; a chamber choir of quality started to function under Avner Itai, and a special course for music education was started. Four years of study leading to a B.A. in Mus. Ed. will, it is hoped, provide teachers qualified to teach music in high schools. Jazz has been added as a teaching subject, and one of the most flourishing departments is the "Ethnic" percussion class. It was in 1971, its year of major

Photos, counter-clockwise from upper left: Courtyard of the Academy; student performance at Jerusalem Khan; Burmese harp; visiting Japanese musicians play koto and hakuhachi; Ghana Ambassador presents instruments to Academy's musicians; inauguration of building, with Yohanan Dostrovsky, Yitzhak and Rahel Ben-Zvi, Gilda Joseph, Samuel Rubin, Eliezer Perl.

development, that the Academy was given recognition as an Institute for Higher Education. Since 1958, the summer is given over to special courses, seminars and classes, and many distinguished personalities have come here regularly to teach and inspire — Martha Graham, Lotte Leonard, Nadia Reisenberg, Leonard Shure, Sebastian Bond, William Masselos, Jennie Tourel to name only a few. Dance, therapy, choreography and related subjects are always on the programmes. Two years ago a special summer programme was evolved to enable students of New York University and the Jerusalem Academy to spend the summer in congenial surroundings and collect credits for their degrees.

The Opera Workshop has been declared the official project of the America-Israel Cultural Foundation, and it is hoped to develop it into a serious professional school for singers and opera. Simon Sargon, an assistant to take over the precious quire more space so that the ambitious plans for expansion and improvement can be realized. This needs a lot of money, and even more, people of vision and drive.

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1973

THE JERUSALEM POST MAGAZINE — FAMILY PAGE

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Great battle between karate
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Helen - Mahmoud
In colour

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ALAIN DELON
RONY SCHWARTZ

SEMADEAR Tel. 58743
JENNIFER O'NEIL
JERRY JAMES
SUMMER OF '42

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GEORGE ROWLANDS
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SHALOM Tel. 517430
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A Ruler for a Gun Fighter

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Cinema

* BUTTERFLIES ARE FREE - Polish
and amusing dialogue carries, without
a trace of wishfulness, this blind boy-
made-for story.

* CLOCKWORK ORANGE - Ku-
brick's ultimate in sex and sadism
might leave non-addicts of violence cold.
COOL BREEZE - Another in the series
of "Shift" initiators, this black crime-
thriller is nevertheless strong in character-
ization.

* MORIAN GRAY - Anglo-Italian pro-
duction is an interesting attempt to bring
Oscar Wilde's drama on clash between
good and evil up to date.
* ENDLESS NIGHT - Same adaptation
of Agatha Christie's same mystery story.

* YEAR IS THE KEY - A hard-hitting
action story with plenty of chaos, the
best of which is terrible but too long.
* FELLINI'S ROMA - Director's per-
sonal portrait of a city shows sharp
contrast.

* FIST OF FURY - Star Bruce Lee is
a prodigious pugilist but his acting
lacks punch in another Chinese boxing
epic.
* FRENZY - Hitchcock at his machine
lost in this thriller about a sex pervert
on the rampage.

* THE GODFATHER - An excess of
blood and gore impairs this finely made
film about organized crime in the U.S.
* THE INVINCIBLE BOXER - Hong-
kong production of tale of young fighter
has plenty of action.

* KANSAS CITY BOMBER - Stunning
action with superbly well made
film about organized crime in the U.S.
* THE LAST PICTURE SHOW - Act-
ing couldn't be better, as director Peter
Jackson succeeds in creating a com-
pelling story about uninteresting events
in a small town in Texas.

* MINNIE AND MOSKOWITZ - Or-
bit comedy with credible characters,
some observation, good acting. Written
and directed by John Cassavetes.

* THE NEW CRATONS - Three Los
Angeles policemen.
* ONE IS A LONELY NUMBER - Stereo-
typed view of a broken marriage.
* SIXTY BLIND IN A BOY -
Roger Vadim sometimes goes for the
cheap laughs in a concoction of sex and
murder at an American high school.
* REDNECK - Chino thriller has good
acting from Telly Savalas and Mark
Lester, fine photography of Italian
countryside.

* STRAY DOGS - Rates high as a
horror film. Nam "Deathtrap" cutting
raises the tension effectively, good per-
formance from Dustin Hoffman.
* THE SALTZBURG CONNECTION -
Below average espionage tale.
* THE SEVEN MINUTES - An absence
of the main event in this film,
directed in distinctly bad taste.

* SUNDAY BLOODY SUNDAY - Inter-
play average espionage tale.
* THE VIKING WHO CAME FROM
THE SOUTH - An Italian business-
man finds it hard to adjust to the
sexual mores of Copenhagen. Amusing,
despite a noticeable lack of the
and.

* 2 - Costs-Garvas masters the deau-
moniacal style in a gripping and trans-
parent denunciation of Greece's military
rulers.
* Recommended.

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